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Analysis of EBT Redemption Patterns: Methods and Detailed Tables

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Introduction

The *Analysis of EBT Benefit Redemption Patterns* has two primary research objectives:

1. Describe how participants redeem their food stamp (FS) benefits (including the number and types of stores frequented by typical clients, the timing and amount of purchases during the month, the frequency of benefit exhaustions, and the amount of benefits carried over into following months).
2. Identify redemption patterns across groups and analyze differences in redemption and shopping patterns if such exist (e.g., differences between participants with earnings and those without; differences between families with and without children; differences between geographic regions).

This study compiled three sets of data to address the research objectives:

1. **FY2003 ALERT data** – Includes all EBT transactions conducted nationwide during FY2003. These data were used to provide state-level average monthly statistics (based on calendar months).
2. **Matched QC-ALERT sample** – Food stamp households in the FNS Quality Control (FNS-QC) sample were matched to ALERT transactions. This sample was used for research objective 2, examining benefit redemption by household characteristics. Two analysis files were constructed:
 - a) Calendar month file – Includes EBT transactions corresponding to three calendar months centered on the sample month for QC review.
 - b) Issuance month file – Includes EBT transactions corresponding to three issuance months centered on the sample month for QC review.
3. **Samples of FY2003 ALERT data** – Approximately 10,000 food stamp households per State and month were sampled from the full ALERT files. These data were used to provide State-level estimates of benefit exhaustion, based on issuance month rather than calendar month.

Three sets of data were used because neither the ALERT data, nor the Matched QC-ALERT sample, could address all research objectives. The ALERT data do not contain household characteristics needed for research objective 2. The Matched QC-ALERT sample contains information about household characteristics, however, for FY2003, the matched sample was not nationally representative because it was not possible to match QC households to ALERT data for all States. Finally, samples of ALERT data, rather than the complete files, were used for state-level estimates of benefit exhaustion because this analysis required imputation of issuance dates and amounts, which was computationally intense.

This report describes the methods for obtaining, preparing, and analyzing the data needed to address the research objectives listed above. Chapter 1 describes the primary data sources, including information about data collection and initial data processing activities. Chapter 2 describes the steps taken to clean and prepare each set of data for tabulation. Chapter 3 provides detailed information about imputation procedures for: a) issuance dates, b) issuance amounts, and c) months of inactivity. The final tables produced for the project are included following Chapter 3.

Chapter 1

Primary Data Sources

This study assembled seven types of data for analyses of EBT benefit redemption patterns:

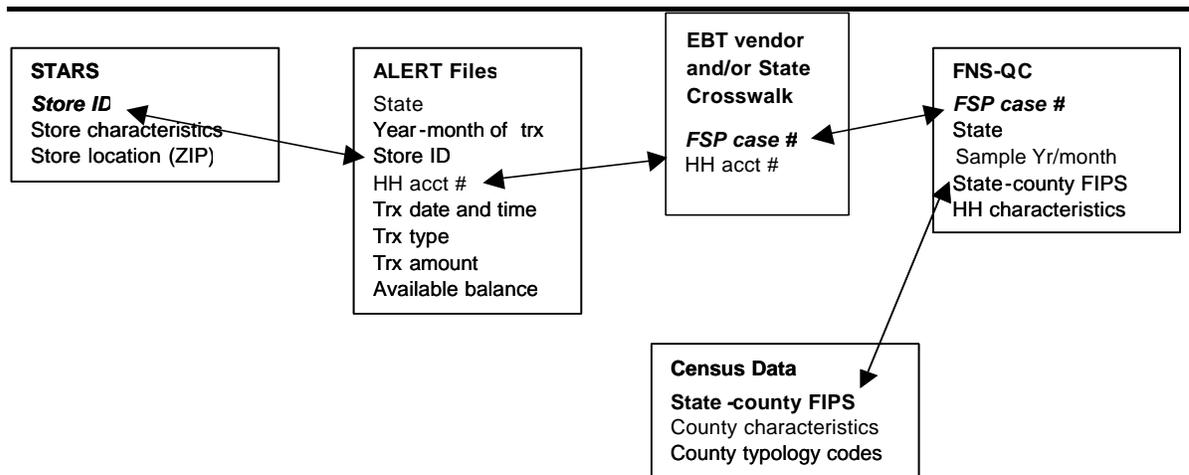
1. ALERT files of monthly EBT transaction data (one file per State and calendar month)
2. STARS data describing Food Stamp Program-authorized retailers
3. Food Stamp Quality Control data
4. Census data describing geographic areas
5. Crosswalk file from JP Morgan for linking QC and ALERT data
6. Crosswalk files from State Food Stamp agencies for linking QC and ALERT data
7. State food stamp benefit issuance schedules

The relationships between the first six data sources are shown in Exhibit 1. The ALERT files provide the EBT transaction records; the STARS, QC, and Census data provide characteristics of retailers, households, and geographic areas that were used to analyze redemption patterns by subgroups. The crosswalk files were used to link QC and ALERT data. State benefit issuance schedules were used to impute issuance dates and estimate the accuracy of imputations.

This chapter provides a description of each data source, procedures for obtaining the data, and procedures for initial data processing.

Exhibit 1

Data Sources and Database Relationships^a



^a Data items shown in **bold** are unique—that is, they appear on only one record within the data file.

1.1. ALERT Data

ALERT is the acronym for the **Anti-Fraud Locator for EBT Redemption Transaction** system designed and implemented by the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. State Food Stamp agencies, through their EBT vendors, are required to submit EBT transaction data to the ALERT system on a monthly basis. Nationwide implementation of EBT was not complete in FY2003 and, as a result, the ALERT data provide incomplete coverage of FY2003 food stamp redemption for seven States, shown in Exhibit 2.

ALERT files contain one record for each transaction initiated by an EBT cardholder. The files do not contain records of benefit issuance indicating the date and time that the FS monthly allotment is deposited into the EBT account. Each ALERT transaction record contains the following data items:

- Store ID: Numeric identifier; must match the FNS store authorization number
- Store State: Alphabetic state code matching the state where the store is located
- POS Terminal ID: Identifies the POS device
- Household Account #: State FS case number or account number assigned by EBT vendor
- Card Account #: EBT card number
- Transaction Date: Valid date in CCYYMMDD format
- Transaction Time: Valid time in HHMMSS format (24-hour clock)
- Transaction Amount: Numeric value
- Transaction Sign: Must be “+” for credits (void or refund) and “-” for debits (purchases)
- Transaction Type: Identifies purchase, refund, void last transaction, balance inquiry
- “Swipe”¹: Indicates electronic swipe, key entry, paper voucher, or store & forward
- Response Code: Identifies “Accepted/Approved” or reason for rejection
- Available Balance Prior to Transaction: Numeric value, “must be > or = Transaction Amount” if the response code indicates that the transaction was accepted.

Types of EBT transactions include: purchase, refund, void last transaction, and balance inquiry. Purchase transactions have dollar amounts indicating a debit from the EBT account; voids and refunds have dollar amounts indicating an increment to the EBT account (to counter a previous purchase transaction). Transactions may be rejected for reasons such as invalid PIN, insufficient funds, and unauthorized vendors. Rejected transactions have zero dollar amount.

FNS provided ALERT data for 52 States, including the District of Columbia and Virgin Islands. For most States, 18 months of data were provided for FY2003 and 3 months before and after the fiscal year. The files were delivered on CD-ROMS, in compressed (ZIP) format. Uncompressed, the files were ASCII with a fixed file format, and occupied over 100 gigabytes of hard drive space.

¹ “Swipe” is our name for the second part of the Transaction Type field.

Exhibit 2**States where EBT Provides Incomplete Coverage of Food Stamp Redemption in FY2003**

State	Percent redeemed by EBT	Reason for Incomplete Coverage
California	31.17%	San Bernadino and San Diego counties implemented EBT in 1997; 28 counties implementing during FY2003 (providing at least one month of data); 28 counties implemented after FY2003; Los Angeles implemented in 3 phases (July 2003, Jan 2004, and Feb 2004).
Delaware	19.30%	ALERT data available for June-September 2003 (4 months).
Iowa	14.59%	EBT gradually rolled out; statewide implementation not complete during FY2003.
Maine	35.95%	ALERT data available for April-September 2003 (6 months).
Mississippi	61.93%	EBT gradually rolled out; statewide implementation complete in March 2003.
Virgin Islands	73.22%	ALERT data available for January-September 2003 (9 months).
West Virginia	58.05%	EBT gradually rolled out; statewide implementation completed at end of calendar 2003.

The following anomalies were found with the ALERT files, and are described further in Chapter 2:

- Calendar month files sometimes contain records for adjacent months (e.g., end-of-month transactions appear in the ALERT file for the next month). This inconsistency was resolved in initial processing by writing out ALERT records to monthly SAS data files based on transaction date (TRXDATE).
- ALERT files contained two response codes on records for “rejected” transactions (codes 100 and 199) that were not defined in the documentation, and FNS was unable to obtain code definitions from EBT vendors. Code ‘199’ is fairly rare, but code ‘100’ is common, and appears across States and transaction types (rejected purchase, void, refund, and balance inquiry). Because these codes were undefined, tabulations of rejected transactions and reasons for rejection were not completed.
- EBT vendors are instructed to sort the ALERT data so that “Void last transaction” follows the transaction being voided. This rule is not followed when two identical purchase transactions are followed by two identical Voids. Additional problems that were relatively rare included: a) the sort rule was not followed for single Voids; b) no matching purchase transaction was found for the Void.

Problems with voids were resolved by: a) resorting the data, b) use of programming and the combination of manual review and hard-coding to identify and clean sequential voids, and c) treating voids like refunds if no matching purchase transaction could be found.

- For one State, in the month when the EBT vendor changed, transaction records appeared to be split for the purpose of closing out the prior month with the old vendor. This resulted in an artificially higher number of transactions for the month. This month was not used for analyses and average monthly statistics were based on 11 months of data. (The problem occurred for Louisiana in December 2002.)

- In some States, “store & forward” transactions were found to be exact duplicates of “paper voucher” transactions. These transactions were identified and deleted from the Matched QC-ALERT sample, but not from the full ALERT files.
- Transactions with “swipe” of key entry, paper voucher, or store & forward sometimes have incorrect values for Available Balance and/or Transaction Date because of an apparent lag in posting these transactions electronically. In some cases, incorrect values result in Available Balance that is not greater than or equal to transaction amount.

This problem was resolved for the Matched QC-ALERT file only (not the full ALERT files). SAS programming was used to identify all households with any swipes of key entry, paper voucher, or store & forward (“bad swipes”). Instances where the available balance did not decrement properly were identified, and the Available balance and/or transaction date on “bad swipes” were cleaned to impose the proper decrement in balance. Cleaning was done through SAS programming and the combination of manual review and hard-code “IF-THEN” statements.

Data Processing

The following procedures were used for initial processing of ALERT files:

- **Examine file sizes.** File sizes were carefully examined and it was found that some files were partially written to the CDs or were otherwise damaged; 22 files required replacement out of a total of over 800 files.
- **Read into SAS datasets.** ALERT files were read into SAS data files, maintaining the “one file per State per calendar month” structure of the original files. For each State and month, the ALERT file was read and three output files were created:
 1. File header information (vendor name, year/month, number of records)
 2. Valid purchases, refunds, and voids [transaction type = ‘10’, ‘20’, or ‘30’ and response code = ‘000’]
 3. All other transactions [transaction type not equal ‘10’, ‘20’, or ‘30’ or response code not equal ‘000’]

Transaction records were assigned to SAS monthly files based on transaction date; thus correcting the occurrence of transactions in the wrong ALERT monthly file.

- **Impose consistent household account numbers within State.** Apply additional processing for States where the format of household account numbers was not consistent throughout the fiscal year. Consistent household account numbers are needed to link household data across months for analyses such as “number of cards per household” and “percent of households with any lost card.” This problem is more common when there is a change in EBT vendor.
 - **Change in EBT vendor** ³/₄ Four States changed EBT vendor during FY2003, and household account numbers were not consistent across the change in vendor. We imposed consistency in household account numbers using the EBT card number, which was consistent across the change in vendor. (EBT card numbers could not be used for household-level tabulations because households may have multiple EBT cards during a year.)
 - **No change in vendor** ³/₄ The format of EBT household account numbers (HHACCT) were not consistent within State and across months for Kansas and Missouri, even though there was no change in vendor. This problem was discovered after examining State-level

tabulations of the number of months of EBT participation per household for all States, and investigating results that appeared to be outliers. We imposed consistency in household account numbers using the EBT card number, as described above.

The initial processing of ALERT data was kept to a minimum, maintaining the original structure and content of the data. The SAS datasets created at this step were input into all State-level analyses of EBT benefit redemption.

1.2. Store Tracking and Redemption Subsystem (STARS)

The USDA STARS system is a database and software system used by FNS headquarters, regional offices, and field offices for store authorization, monitoring, and investigation. Data items available in STARS, for each authorized retailer, include: store identifier (Store ID), store name, address, telephone, business type, number of registers, average gross monthly sales, and monthly food stamp redemption by coupon and by EBT.

These data were used for the following purposes:

- Determine the percent of FY2003 redemption by EBT (versus coupon) per State
- Assign “store type” to ALERT transactions
- Assign “metro/micro/rural” code to ALERT transactions to denote the location of the store where benefits were redeemed

FNS provided STARS data for the 18-month period including FY2003 and 3 months before and after the fiscal year. This included 158,174 retailers active during the 18-month period. The data were provided in two ASCII files:

- OANESTores.txt – Store information for stores active between July 2002 and Dec 2003
- OANERED.txt – Store Redemptions for 18 months

Data Processing

The STARS data were processed into a single SAS dataset, keeping only the following data items used for this study.

- Store Identifier – used to link store characteristics to EBT transaction records
- City, State and ZIP code – used to assign county FIPS code and county characteristics
- Business Type (supermarket, grocery, convenience, specialty, gas/grocery, etc.)
- Average monthly gross sales – used to recode business type
- Total FY2003 food stamp coupon redemption (constructed from monthly values)
- Total FY2003 food stamp EBT redemption (constructed from monthly values)

Only one anomaly was encountered with the STARS data. We found that the “percent of redemption by EBT” measured from STARS was not consistent with information about the timing of statewide EBT implementation for two States (Mississippi and the Virgin Islands). For these States, we used ALERT data to measure “redemption by EBT” for retailers in the State.

Two data items were derived from STARS and used with ALERT data, via SAS formats:

1. Store Type – Recode of Business Type, with supermarkets and small/medium groceries reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).²
2. “Metro/micro/rural” location of retailer - State/county FIPS code was assigned to each retailer based on ZIP code or city name from the STARS file; metro/micro/rural codes were then assigned based on FIPS.

1.3. Food Stamp Program Quality Control Data

The FNS-QC data contain representative samples of FSP households from each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These households were selected for quality control review, as required by FSP regulations. This study used the FY2003 FNS-QC analysis file that was tabulated for “Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 2003” (Cunningham and Brown, 2004).

EBT transactions were extracted from the ALERT files for the FNS-QC sample of households. ALERT data were extracted for the entire 18-month period, but most analyses used only EBT transactions for the three-month period centered on the QC sample month for each household. The process of matching QC households to ALERT data is described in section 1.5. Eighty percent of QC households (39,148 of 48,896) could be matched to EBT transactions in the three-month period used for analyses.

The Matched QC-ALERT data were used to tabulate EBT redemption patterns by household and geographic characteristics, and test for statistically significant differences between subgroups. The subgroups used for these analyses, and corresponding FNS-QC variable names, are:

- Household type, with and without children (constructed variable)
- Types of households with children (constructed variable)
- All types of households (constructed variable using MPR code)
- Household size (FSUSIZE)
- Race of household head (RACETH1-RACETH15 corresponding to household head)
- Employment status (FSEARN)
- Receipt of TANF (FSTANF)
- Food stamp benefit amount (RAWBEN)
- Months in certification period (CERTMTH)
- FNS region (constructed from STATE)
- Metropolitan, micropolitan, rural county of residence (based on STATE and COUNTYCD)
- Residence in county characterized by persistent poverty (based on STATE and COUNTYCD)

FNS provided two FY2003 FNS-QC data files:

1. QCFY2003.sd7 – Public-access analysis file used for the “Characteristics of Food Stamp Households” report
2. QCRAW.SAS7BDAT – Raw data as provided by the States to FNS

² Macaluso, T.F. (2003). The Extent of Trafficking in the Food Stamp Program: 1999-2002. Alexandria, VA: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, FSP-03-TRAF.

The public access file is the primary analysis file. The raw data file contains the food stamp case number for each household, which is needed to link QC households to ALERT data.

Data Processing Procedures

Initial processing of QC data included four steps:

1. The food stamp case number from the “raw” data file was merged to the analysis file by “household identification number” (HHLDNA).³
2. Census county characteristics were merged to the QC data by State and county FIPS codes. (Description of Census variables appears in next section.)
3. EBT transaction records for QC households were extracted from the ALERT files. The link between files varied by State and was based, directly or indirectly, on food stamp case number. Indirect links required a crosswalk file from the EBT vendor and/or the State Food Stamp Agency. This link is described in detail in section 1.5 below.
4. Variables describing household characteristics were constructed for tabulation of QC households by subgroup. The SAS code documenting variable creation is provided to FNS separately.⁴

The FSP benefit level in the QC file (RAWBEN) was not used for final tabulations because it was not always consistent with imputed EBT issuance amount from ALERT data for the FNS-QC sample month (ISSUANCE). These two values were consistent for 92.6 percent of QC households. Inconsistencies could be the result of errors in the QC file, changes in issuance that were not reflected in the QC file, or errors in imputing the EBT issuance amount.⁵ As a result, the ALERT issuance amount was used because it is consistent with redemptions. Households receiving maximum and minimum FS benefit levels were identified on the basis of the ALERT issuance amount, and household size.

1.4. Geographic Characteristics

Three geographic variables were used in the analysis of EBT redemption patterns. These are listed below, along with the web link for data and definitions:

- FNS administrative region (www.fns.usda.gov/wic/Contacts/state.HTM)
- Metropolitan/micropolitan county (www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/Rurality/MicropolitanAreas/)
- Counties characterized by persistent poverty (www.ers.usda.gov/Data/TypologyCodes/)

FNS region was assigned to QC households and STARS retailers based on State.

³ HHLDNA is defined in the analysis file as: “Record position of the unit in the unedited FNS-QC file. HHLDNA is a unique identifier.”

⁴ ‘Household type’ and ‘race of household head’ are used in tables in the *Characteristics of Food Stamp Households* report, but these analysis variables are not included in the QCFY2003.sd7 file and were recreated.

⁵ The EBT issuance amount is imputed from the change in available balance.

Metro/micro county and “persistent poverty” are county-level variables that were assigned to QC households and STARS retailers based on State and county FIPS codes. The QC database contains State and county FIPS codes. The STARS database does not contain county codes, but county codes were assigned to retailers on the basis of ZIP code or city name.

1.5. Crosswalk Files to Link QC and ALERT Data

EBT transactions for QC households were extracted from the ALERT files in order to analyze EBT benefit redemption patterns by household characteristics. For some States, a direct link could be made between the QC data and the ALERT data because the QC case number (CASE-ID-NUM) matches the EBT household account number (HHACCT). This direct link was not possible for States with JP Morgan as EBT vendor, and for some non-JP Morgan States.⁶ Thus, crosswalk files were needed from JP Morgan and from some State Food Stamp Agencies (SFSAs).

Data Collection

JP Morgan Crosswalk File

JP Morgan provided Abt Associates with a separate crosswalk file for each State serviced by JP Morgan. Each crosswalk file was a master list of all food stamp cases ever processed by JP Morgan for the State, and included two data items:

- EBT household account number (this matches HHACCT in the ALERT file)
- State Unique Identifier (SUI)

State unique identifiers (SUIs) are provided by State Food Stamp Agencies (SFSAs) to JP Morgan to identify food stamp households. In some States the SUI is the food stamp case number. In this case, the JP Morgan file is sufficient to link QC and ALERT data. In other States, however, the SUI is not the food stamp case number and an additional crosswalk file is needed from the SFSA.

State Crosswalk Files

Abt Associates identified 22 States for which QC and ALERT data could not be linked on their own or via a JP Morgan crosswalk file. These States were contacted and asked to provide a crosswalk file.

States serviced by JP Morgan were asked to provide:

- State Unique Identifier (SUI) – matches JP Morgan cross walk file
- Food Stamp case number – matches QC data

States not serviced by JP Morgan were asked to provide:

- EBT household account number – matches ALERT file
- Food Stamp case number – matches QC data

The following data collection procedures were followed:

1. Abt prepared and transmitted email to SFSA Directors describing the data request
2. Abt communicated via telephone with EBT or systems staff to clarify the email

⁶ JP Morgan creates a unique household account number that does not contain information provided by State Food Stamp Agencies.

3. Abt sent data files so that the State could verify:
 - a. That the QC CASE-ID-NUM is the same as the FS case number
 - b. For non JP Morgan States, that the State has the EBT household account number matching the format in ALERT records
 - c. For JP Morgan States, that the State has the SUI matching the format in the JP Morgan crosswalk file
4. A follow-up phone call after the State receives and examines data, to discuss discrepancies and possible fixes or confirm the availability of data and procedures for providing data.

Three States were not contacted because EBT was implemented late in FY2003 (Delaware, Iowa, and Guam). Of the 22 States that were contacted, 4 could not provide the requested data:

- California – Data are maintained at the county-level, not State level
- New Mexico – Contractor cost to extract data was prohibitive
- Pennsylvania – Staff were not available to fill the data request
- Ohio – Staff were not available to fill the data request

Data Processing Procedures

Exhibit 3 provides a graphical picture of the methods of linking QC and ALERT data. There are four categories of States, requiring different data linkages:

1. 14 States – JP Morgan vendor, SUI equals or contains FS case#
– CO, DC, FL, HI, MI, NY, ND, OK, SC, SD, VA, VI, WI, WV
2. 13 States – JP Morgan vendor, SUI does not contain FS case#
– CT, GA, ID, IN, LA, MD, NC, NE, NV, WA (DE, IA, OH could not provide crosswalk data)
3. 16 States – Not JP Morgan, Alert HHACCT equals or contains FS case#
– AL, AK, AZ, AR, KS, ME, MA, MN, MS, MO, MT, NJ, RI, TX, UT, WY
(CA, NM, PA could not provide crosswalk data)
4. 9 States – Not JP Morgan, Alert HHACCT does not contain FS case#
– IL, KY, NH, OR, TN, VT

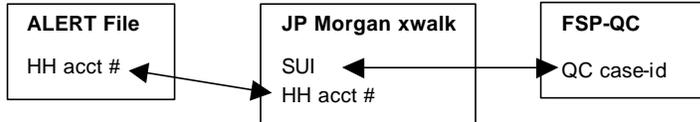
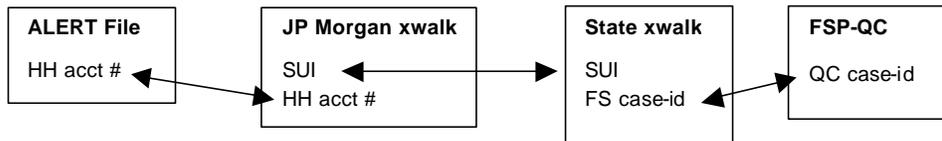
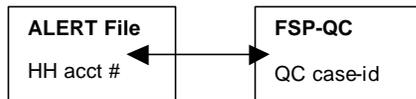
The JP Morgan crosswalk file is needed for all States in categories 1 and 2, although this crosswalk is not sufficient for States in category 2. No crosswalk file is needed for States in category 3. And finally, a State crosswalk file is needed for States in categories 2 and 4. Guam is not included in the categorization of States because EBT was not used in Guam.

Exhibit 4 provides a list of all 52 States, an indication of the 46 States for which QC and ALERT files were matched, and the number of QC cases for which EBT transactions were found for the 3-month window centered on the QC sample month.⁷ The table shows the contribution of each State to the QC sample and the national food stamp caseload.

Overall, 80.1 percent of QC cases were matched to ALERT data, representing 77.3 percent of the nationwide food stamp caseload. High match rates were achieved for most States where any data

⁷ In States where EBT was not implemented statewide at the start of FY2003, some QC cases were matched to ALERT but data were not available for the relevant 3-month window used for analyses.

Exhibit 3**Link between QC and ALERT for JP Morgan and non-JP Morgan States**

JP Morgan State – Scenario #1 (14 States)***JP Morgan State – Scenario #2 (13 States; 11 States provided State crosswalk)****Non-JP Morgan State – Scenario #1 (16 States)****Non-JP Morgan State – Scenario #2 (9 States; 5 States provided crosswalk)****

* The first number in parentheses represents the total number of States in the category; these numbers sum to 52 States.

** This category includes Delaware and Iowa; crosswalk files were not requested from these States because EBT was not implemented statewide until late in FY2003.

could be matched, with the exception of States where EBT was operational only part of the year (Maine, Mississippi, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia) and:

- Louisiana – Data for the month of December 2002 were not usable (see discussion above).
- New York – The case number format varied by county.
- Vermont – Only 60 percent of cases were matched without a crosswalk file, the State was unable to assist us in identifying the problem.

Exhibit 4 ¾ Match of FY2003 Quality Control Sample to ALERT records

State	Number cases	Matched cases	Percent matched	Weighted sample size	Weight of matched cases	% Matched (weighted)
MATCHED STATES						
Alabama	1051	975	92.77	179,229	166,287	92.78
Alaska	331	330	99.70	17,009	16,957	99.69
Arizona	1170	1166	99.66	175,494	174,882	99.65
Arkansas	1429	1420	99.37	123,001	122,230	99.37
Colorado	1141	1023	89.66	87,448	78,381	89.63
Connecticut	936	833	89.00	91,129	81,131	89.03
District of Columbia	674	621	92.14	37,930	34,967	92.19
Florida	1268	1250	98.58	492,982	485,950	98.57
Georgia	959	927	96.66	308,379	298,061	96.65
Hawaii	813	806	99.14	47,860	47,442	99.13
Idaho	650	646	99.38	30,828	30,637	99.38
Illinois	982	964	98.17	416,227	408,583	98.16
Indiana	1134	1110	97.88	189,723	185,692	97.88
Kansas	1127	1101	97.69	68,425	66,826	97.66
Kentucky	1086	1058	97.42	205,069	199,794	97.43
Louisiana	1127	963	85.45	243,909	208,359	85.42
Maine	922	423	45.88	64,152	28,509	44.44
Maryland	1249	1219	97.60	113,589	110,967	97.69
Massachusetts	939	929	98.94	134,652	133,192	98.92
Michigan	955	950	99.48	356,725	354,840	99.47
Minnesota	967	880	91.00	107,631	97,860	90.92
Mississippi	1156	867	75.00	141,068	105,472	74.77
Missouri	1082	970	89.65	240,823	215,207	89.36
Montana	571	559	97.90	29,689	29,051	97.85
Nebraska	682	650	95.31	41,458	39,517	95.32
Nevada	720	709	98.47	47,621	46,899	98.49
New Hampshire	393	348	88.55	21,439	18,990	88.58
New Jersey	1107	1098	99.19	156,898	155,599	99.17
New York	1047	833	79.56	716,562	569,818	79.52
North Carolina	1049	960	91.52	271,517	248,552	91.54
North Dakota	716	709	99.02	17,020	16,849	98.99
Oklahoma	1172	1160	98.98	147,782	146,297	99.00
Oregon	999	893	89.39	189,203	169,138	89.40
Rhode Island	610	607	99.51	33,262	33,103	99.52
South Carolina	957	953	99.58	181,458	180,692	99.58
South Dakota	404	403	99.75	20,018	19,968	99.75
Tennessee	917	908	99.02	304,460	301,523	99.04
Texas	1332	1331	99.92	712,747	711,928	99.89
Utah	750	679	90.53	40,482	36,668	90.58
Vermont	376	229	60.90	20,095	12,258	61.00
Virgin Islands	305	250	81.97	4,225	3,466	82.04
Virginia	1080	1077	99.72	170,036	169,564	99.72
Washington	1226	1200	97.88	188,318	184,376	97.91
West Virginia	1151	754	65.51	103,556	67,680	65.36
Wisconsin	1095	1071	97.81	116,070	113,559	97.84
Wyoming	340	336	98.82	10,001	9,881	98.80
STATES NOT MATCHED						
California	961	0	0.00	651,051	0	0.00
Delaware	636	0	0.00	18,840	0	0.00
Guam	282	0	0.00	6,854	0	0.00
Iowa	1342	0	0.00	65,180	0	0.00
New Mexico	1356	0	0.00	73,133	0	0.00
Ohio	1102	0	0.00	371,856	0	0.00
Pennsylvania	1070	0	0.00	367,109	0	0.00
Total U.S.	48896	39148	80.06	8,971,219	6,937,603	77.33

1.6. State Food Stamp Benefit Issuance Schedules

ALERT data do not contain benefit issuance dates needed to determine the timing of benefit redemption relative to issuance. Abt Associates imputed issuance dates. State issuance schedules were collected for the purpose of placing parameters on the imputation procedure and examining the accuracy of imputations for a subset of QC households for which the issuance date could be assigned with certainty.

Issuance practices vary by State. Information about the State issuance schedules is generally provided in EBT handbooks or other program literature provided to food stamp recipients. Collection of State issuance schedules was initiated with an Internet search of State food stamp agency web sites because FNS did not have this information at the start of this study. The web search yielded information about issuance schedules for 33 States. Subsequently, FNS provided complete information about issuance schedules for all States, thereby eliminating the need to contact remaining States. The information provided by FNS was collected by the FNS Benefit Redemption Division (BRD) through a Survey of EBT Issuance Practices. Issuance information for all States is shown in Exhibit 5.

Examination of ALERT data showed that the issuance schedule in Rhode Island was not consistent across all months. Rhode Island issues benefits to all households on the first day of the month. This schedule is altered during the November-December holiday period, with the December issuance occurring two days before Thanksgiving and the January issuance occurring two days before Christmas. This altered schedule was observed in both calendar 2002 and 2003. West Virginia used a similar holiday schedule in calendar 2003 only.⁸

Information about issuance schedules was not compiled in a database, but was used in SAS code as follows:

- Parameters on imputed issuance dates – For each State, the first and last days of the issuance schedule determined the range of valid observed issuance dates. (Imputation procedures are described in detail in Chapter 3.)
- Examining the accuracy of imputed issuance dates – Imputed issuance dates were compared to actual issuance dates for QC households residing in States that assign issuance days on the basis of food stamp case number. (This comparison was done for QC households in 27 States denoted with an asterisk in Exhibit 5; the results are described in Chapter 3.)

⁸ ALERT data for November and December 2003 were part of the 18-month period used for imputing issuance dates, however, these data were not used for analyses of benefit redemption patterns. Due to the observed shift in issuance practices in November-December 2003, these months were not used for West Virginia imputations.

Exhibit 5
State Food Stamp Benefit Issuance Rules

State	Issuance days	Number days in issuance cycle	Basis of staggered issuance (* denotes single-day issuance or based on case #)
AK	1st	1	* NA
AL	4th -18th	15	* Last two digits of case number
AR	5th, 10th, 15th	3	Last digit of SSN
AZ	1st - 13th	13	1st letter of last name
CA	1st - 10th	10	* Last digit of case #
CO	1st - 10th	10	Last digit of SSN
CT	1st - 3rd	3	1st letter of last name
DC	1st - 10th	10	1st letter of last name
DE	5th -11th	7	1st letter of last name
FL	1st - 15th	15	* 8th and 9th digit of case number in reverse order
GA	5th - 14th	10	* Last digit of case #
HI	3rd, 5th	2	1st letter of last name
IA	1st - 10th	10	1st letter of last name
ID	1st - 5th	5	* Last digit of case #
IL	1,3,5,8,11,14,17,19,21,23	10	Combination of case # and name
IN	1st - 10th	10	1st letter of last name
KS	1st - 10th	10	1st letter of last name
KY	1st - 10th	10	Last digit of SSN
LA	5th - 14th	10	Last digit of SSN
MA	1,2,4,5,7,8,10,11,13,14	10	Last digit of SSN
MD	6th-15th	10	1st letter of last name
ME	10th - 14th	5	Date of birth
MI	1st - 9th	9	* Last digit of case #
MN	4th - 13th	10	* Last digit of case #
MO	1st - 22nd	22	Birth month and 1st letter of Iname
MS	5th - 19th	15	* Last two digits of case #
MT	2nd - 6th	5	* Last digit of case #
NC	3rd-7th	5	Last digit of SSN
ND	1st	1	* NA
NE	1st -5th	5	Last digit of SSN (1&2 on 1st, 3&4 on 2d, etc.)
NH	5th	1	* NA
NJ	1st - 5th (varies by cnty)	5	* Last digit of case #
NM	1st - 20th	20	Last two digits of SSN
NV	1st	12	* NA
NY	1st - 10th (varies by cnty)	10	* Last digit of case #
OH	Varies by cnty	varies	* Last digit of case #
OK	1st, 2nd	2	* Odd numbered cases on 1st, even on 2nd
OR	1st -9th	9	Last digit of SSN
PA	First 10 business days	10	* Large counties stagger; small counties do not.
RI	1st	1	* NA
SC	1st - 10th	10	* Last digit of case #
SD	10th	1	* NA
TN	1st -10th	10	* Last two digits of case number
TX	1,3,5,6,7,9,11,12,13,15	10	* Last digit of case #
UT	5th, 11th, 15th	3	A-G on 5th, H-O on 11th, P-Z on 15th

Exhibit 5

State Food Stamp Benefit Issuance Rules

State	Issuance days	Number days in issuance cycle	Basis of staggered issuance (* denotes single-day issuance or based on case #)
VA	1st	1	* NA
VI	1st	1	* NA
VT	1st	1	* NA
WA	1st - 10th	10	* Last digit of case #
WI	2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15	10	8th digit of SSN
WV	1st - 9th	9	1st letter of last name
WY	1st - 4th	4	1st letter of last name

Chapter 2

Data Cleaning, Processing and Tabulation

This chapter provides a description of the steps taken to prepare tabulations of EBT benefit redemption patterns. Two sets of data – national ALERT data and Matched QC-ALERT sample – were each used to produce two sets of tabulations:

1. Average monthly redemption patterns, based on **calendar** months. These tables include:
 - a. Average Number of Monthly EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household, Overall and By Store Type
 - b. Average EBT Purchase Amount, Overall and By Store Type
 - c. Distribution of EBT Purchase Transactions by Dollar Amount
 - d. Average Number of Stores Accessed Per Household Per Month
 - e. Percent of Households Shopping Exclusively at Different Store Types
 - f. Distribution of Households By Percent of Redemption at Supermarkets
2. Average monthly benefit exhaustion statistics, based on **issuance** months. These tables include:
 - a. Average Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed By Days Since Issuance
 - b. Average Dollar Amount of Monthly Issuance Carried Over to the Next Month
 - c. Average EBT Balance at the End of the Issuance Month

The “issuance month” is defined as the monthly period that starts on the day when a household is issued benefits and ends the day prior to the next monthly issuance. Issuance months coincide with calendar months only if benefits are issued on the first of the month. As was shown in Exhibit 5, seven States issue benefits to all households on the first of the month. In these States, the issuance month for all households is the same as the calendar month. In States with a staggered issuance schedule (see Exhibit 5), the issuance month varies by household. For all households with an issuance day after the first of the month, the issuance month overlaps calendar months.

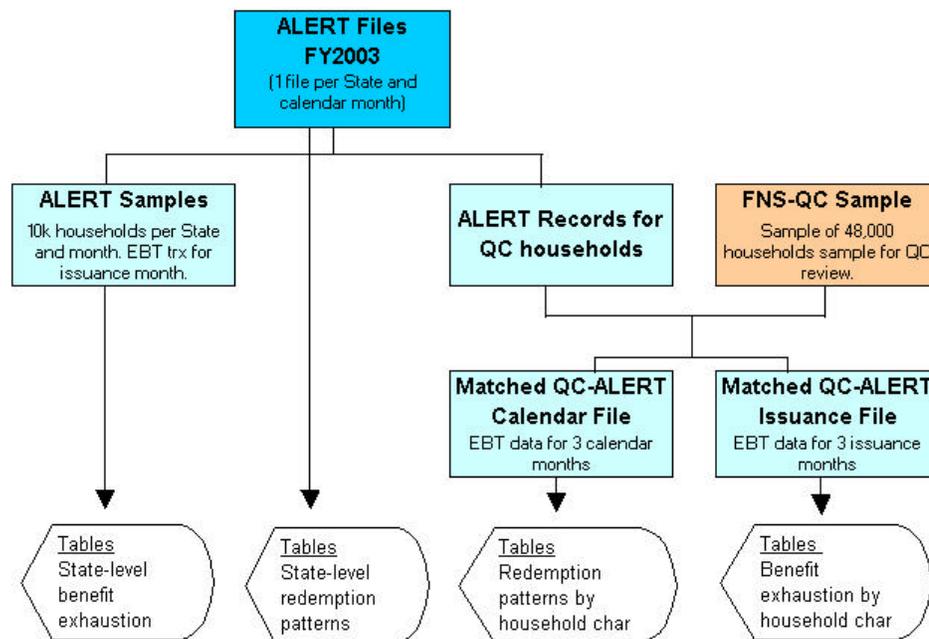
The issuance date is needed for analysis of benefit exhaustion (percent of benefits spent by time since issuance; amount of issuance carried-over to the next issuance month; balance at the end of the issuance month). For all other analysis topics, data can be examined on a calendar month basis. The reason for using calendar month is that it is easy – the data are organized by calendar month and the calendar month is the same for all households. In addition, for all topics other than benefit exhaustion, analysis by calendar month is equivalent to analysis by issuance month.⁹

Exhibit 6 shows the relationship between data sets and tabulations. The complete national ALERT files were used for calendar month tabulations. Samples of the national ALERT files were used for issuance month tabulations (benefit exhaustion analyses). The complete files were not used for

⁹ The following example demonstrates the equivalence of calendar month and issuance month. Consider a household that receives issuance on the fifth day of each month. For this household, the February calendar month contains the last four days of the January issuance month and the first 24 days (out of 28) of the February issuance month. On average, a household’s redemption patterns for the last four days of the month will be the same across months, so it does not matter that the calendar month reflected in the ALERT file contains portions of two issuance months.

Exhibit 6

Relationship Between Data and Tabulations



issuance month analyses due to the computational requirements of imputing issuance dates and reformatting the data to correspond to issuance months. Similarly, for tabulations of the “Matched QC-ALERT” file, two analysis files were constructed, with EBT transactions corresponding to the different time periods defined by calendar versus issuance month.

The final tabulations produced for this project are included in this report following Chapter 3. The correspondence between tables and data files is:

- Tables 1-7 present information about State implementation of EBT, authorized food stamp retailers, State EBT caseloads, and sample statistics for the Matched QC-ALERT sample
- Tables A1-A15 – tabulations of the Matched QC-ALERT Calendar File
- Tables A16-A24 – tabulations of the Matched QC-ALERT Issuance File
- Tables B1-B15 – tabulations of the ALERT Files, FY2003 (calendar month files)
- Tables B16-B22 – tabulations of the ALERT Samples (issuance month files)
- Tables B22a-B22b – tabulations of the ALERT Files, FY2003 (calendar month files describing the timing of redemption throughout the calendar month)
- Tables B23-B24a – tabulations of the ALERT Samples (issuance month files)
- Tables B25-B29 – tabulations of the ALERT Files, FY2003 (calendar month files)

The remainder of this chapter provides a description of data cleaning issues and discussions of data processing for each of the four sets of data files and tabulations shown in Exhibit 6. Throughout the chapter, references are made to imputation of issuance days, however, this chapter focuses on description of the overall workflow for data processing. A detailed description of imputation procedures is provided in Chapter 3.

2.1. Data Cleaning

The ALERT data required “cleaning” to address three issues:

1. Remove voids and corresponding voided transactions
2. Remove refunds and adjust corresponding purchase transactions
3. Correct available balance and transaction date on non-electronic “swipes” (paper vouchers, key-entry, store and forward)

These issues were handled differently in the processing of the full ALERT files and the matched QC-ALERT files, due to the size of the full ALERT files and the computational burden of cleaning those files.

Voids and Refunds

After initial processing of monthly ALERT files into SAS data files, the files contain three types of EBT transaction records: Purchases, Voids, and Refunds. Analyses of redemption patterns focus on purchases and purchase amounts, net of voids and refunds. Thus, ideally, we would like a file of only purchase transactions.

The Matched QC-ALERT files were cleaned to remove Voids and Refunds:

1. Remove voids and corresponding voided transactions
 - Data were sorted by household account, store ID, and descending transaction date (i.e., sorted in reverse order of date).
 - “Voided purchases” were identified as the transaction immediately preceding Voids, and having the same store ID and transaction amount.
 - The pair of Void and corresponding purchase were deleted from the data file.
 - If a corresponding purchase could not be identified for a Void, the data for the household were manually reviewed to identify the corresponding purchase or confirm that no corresponding purchase exists. This resulted in a small number of cases that are hard-coded with “If-then” statements in the SAS program.
2. Remove refunds and adjust corresponding purchase transactions
 - Data were sorted by household account, store ID, and descending transaction date.
 - For each refund, the refund amount was deducted from one or more prior purchases at the same Store, until the entire refund amount was deducted from spending.
 - Refund transactions were deleted from the file.

In contrast to the cleaning of the Matched QC-ALERT file, voids and refunds were not removed from the full ALERT files. Removing Voids and Refunds from the monthly files, and making corresponding adjustments, is computationally burdensome. Therefore, Voids and Refunds were kept in the files and accounted for in the following way:

- In tabulating the number of EBT purchase transactions, Voids were counted as “-1” and Refunds were counted as “0”.
- In tabulating the value of EBT purchase transactions, Voids and refunds contributed negatively to purchase amounts.

This accounting of voids and refunds is equivalent to the “cleaning” that was done for the Matched QC-ALERT file.

Non-Electronic Swipes

Each EBT transaction has a “transaction type” code consisting of two parts: the first part indicates purchase, void, refund, or balance inquiry (we named the SAS variable TRXTYPE); the second part indicates electronic swipe, key entry, paper voucher, or store & forward (we named the SAS variable SWIPE).

As noted in Chapter 1, transactions with “swipe” of key entry, paper voucher, or store & forward sometimes have incorrect values for Available Balance and/or Transaction Date because of an apparent lag in posting these transactions electronically. In some cases, incorrect values result in Available Balance that is not greater than or equal to transaction amount.

The lag in posting non-electronic transactions implies that the transaction date (or time) is incorrect. An incorrect date will place the transaction “out of order” if the household makes other transactions between the actual time of the non-electronic swipe and the time that the non-electronic swipe is posted.

When transactions are sorted by household account and transaction date and time, the swipe problems are identified as follows:

1. Available balance is observed to be incorrect because it does not decrement properly, but the transaction does not appear to be “out of order”. A transaction is considered not “out-of-order” if fixing the Available Balance on that one transaction (according to information on the preceding transaction) achieves proper decrement in Available Balance for the entire sequence of transactions for the household. In these cases, the Available Balance on the “badswipe” is easily fixed by assigning an Available Balance equal to the Available Balance less Transaction Amount on the prior transaction.
2. Available balance is observed to be incorrect and the transaction appears “out of order.” The transaction is identified as “out of order” because the “fix” described above (#1) does not result in a correct decrement of Available Balance over the entire sequence of transactions for the household. These cases required significant programming, and some manual review of data, to identify the proper sort order of transactions and assign a transaction date to the “badswipe” that would place it in the correct order.

The problem with non-electronic swipes has a potential impact on benefit exhaustion analyses, but does not impact any of the tabulations prepared from the calendar month files. The impacts on exhaustion analyses are:

- An incorrect Available Balance on the first transaction of the issuance month will result in an incorrect imputation of issuance amount.¹⁰
- An incorrect Available Balance after the first transaction of the issuance month may appear to be a second issuance during the month.

¹⁰ An incorrect Available Balance on the first transaction occurs in two ways: 1) the first transaction was a non-electronic swipe with an incorrect Available Balance, or 2) the non-electronic swipe has the wrong date and should be the first transaction.

- An incorrect Available Balance on the last transaction of the issuance month will result in an incorrect Ending Balance, where Ending Balance is the balance in the account after the last purchase amount is deducted.

The Matched QC-ALERT file was cleaned to resolve the problem with “swipes.” SAS programming was used to identify all households with any swipes of key entry, paper voucher, or store & forward (“bad swipes”) during the 5-month window around the QC sample month.¹¹ Instances where the available balance did not decrement properly were identified, and the Available balance and/or transaction date on “bad swipes” were cleaned to impose the proper decrement in balance. Cleaning was done through SAS programming and the combination of manual review and hard-code “IF-THEN” statements.

The ALERT samples were not cleaned to correct the transaction date and/or balance on non-electronic swipes. This cleaning was not done primarily because the problem was discovered late in the project and resources were not available for cleaning the ALERT files.¹²

Because of the “swipe problem”, the ALERT samples used for benefit exhaustion analyses contain some measurement error. The Matched QC-ALERT data showed that 4.2 percent of households have at least one non-electronic swipe transaction at some time during the 5-month window that was examined; 2.6 percent of cases have at least one non-electronic swipe that required cleaning.

2.2. Tabulation of National ALERT Files By Calendar Month

The calendar month ALERT files were used to generate average monthly statistics for EBT benefit redemption patterns, including: number of EBT transactions per household; average EBT purchase amount; percent redeemed at supermarkets, grocery stores, and convenience stores; percent of households never shopping at supermarkets; number of stores shopped at per household; and number and amount of out-of-state transactions.

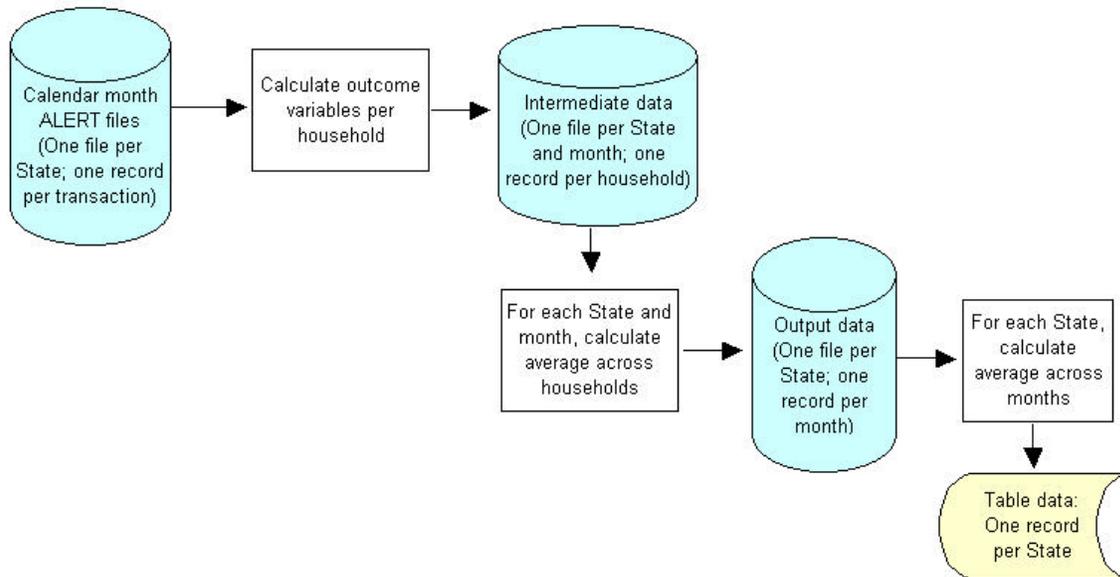
Tabulation of the national ALERT files was straightforward but computationally intense. The flowchart for this analysis is shown in Exhibit 7. All table statistics were calculated for each State, month and household. Statistics were then averaged across households for each State and month, yielding one record per State and month.¹³ Finally, State-level average monthly statistics for FY2003 were calculated as the unweighted average across months for each State. National totals were calculated as the average of State-level estimates (not shown in Exhibit 7), appropriately weighted by average monthly number of households, transactions, or redemption per State.

¹¹ A 5-month window of data was cleaned because the benefit exhaustion analyses uses three issuance months, but issuance months overlap calendar months.

¹² This problem was not communicated by FNS in the delivery of data, and resources were not budgeted for this data cleaning.

¹³ Weighted statistics were calculated, where appropriate, and is documented in the SAS code provided separately on CD-EROM.

Exhibit 7**Flowchart: Analysis of FY2003 ALERT Files, By Calendar Month**



2.3. Tabulation of ALERT Samples By Issuance Month

Samples of the national ALERT data were used for analysis of benefit exhaustion and purchase inactivity. Benefit exhaustion is defined as the timing of redemption relative to issuance date. Purchase inactivity is defined for a household as a month in which they receive an issuance but made no purchase transactions. These analyses involved the following steps:

1. Pull samples of 10,000 households per State and calendar month from a master list of all households and their months of EBT activity.
2. For sampled households, extract all ALERT records for the entire 18-month period (FY2003 and 3 months before and after the fiscal year).
3. Use all 18 months of ALERT data to impute issuance day (see Chapter 3).¹⁴
4. Drop cases that meet exclusion criteria (described below), assess sample size, and resample if necessary.
5. Use imputed issuance day to determine the issuance month for each sampled household such that the issuance month begins on the issuance day of the calendar month in which the household was sampled. Determine issuance amount in each month (see Chapter 3).

¹⁴ References to “18 months of data” or “12 months of data” mean that we used 18 or 12 calendar months of ALERT files to extract data for households. Household may have up to 18 or 12 months of data depending on their period of food stamp participation.

6. For inactivity analyses, use 12-months of ALERT data for each household (all of FY2003) to identify months of inactivity during FY2003, and adjust observed issuance amounts to account for months of purchase inactivity (see Chapter 3).
7. For benefit exhaustion analyses, extract ALERT data for each sampled household's issuance month, and aggregate household EBT redemption to one record per household and day.
8. Construct analysis variables measuring: the percent of monthly issuance redeemed by days since issuance; the amount of issuance carried over to the next issuance month; the monthly ending balance; and the incidence of inactivity.

Sampling

Monthly samples of 10,000 households were selected for each State from a master list containing unique household account numbers and indicators of the months of activity per household. Monthly samples of 10,000 households could not be obtained for Delaware and Iowa because these States rolled out EBT gradually during FY2003 and did not have 10,000 households participating in EBT. In addition, the average monthly caseload in the Virgin Islands is less than 10,000 households. For these three States, the population was used for benefit exhaustion analyses.

For the remaining States, the monthly samples of 10,000 households per State yield 120,000 households per State for the fiscal year. Samples of less than 120,000 were obtained for States where EBT was not implemented for all 12 months of FY2003. After monthly samples were selected, all ALERT transactions for sampled households were extracted (for all 18 months) and issuance days were imputed.¹⁵ Households were dropped from the ALERT samples for the following reasons:

- The issuance day could not be imputed. This occurs if all observed issuances for the households are outside the range of valid issuance dates specified by the State's issuance schedule.
- No issuance was observed for the sample month. These households were sampled because they were observed to make purchase transactions, but they may have received their last issuance in the month prior to the sample month.
- Multiple issuances were observed in the sample month. Analysis of benefit exhaustion was limited to households with a single issuance within the State's regular issuance cycle.

After applying the sample exclusion criteria listed above, the monthly sample sizes were examined for each State. If the average monthly sample size for a State was below 8,000 households, the ALERT sample was redrawn with a sample size of 12,000 or 13,000.

The final average monthly sample sizes for Delaware, Iowa, and the Virgin Islands were 3038, 2819, and 4100 households, respectively. Among the remaining States, the final average monthly sample sizes per State ranged from 8218 to 9817 households, with a mean of 8871 and a median of 8882.

After finalizing the sample of households and imputing regular issuance days, each household was assigned an issuance month. For example, if a household was sampled for the month of February and their imputed issuance day is the 5th of the month, then their issuance month is from February 5 to March 4. The issuance amount received by the household in the February issuance month is

¹⁵ Imputation procedures are described in detail in Chapter 3.

determined by comparing the first transaction occurring on or after February 5th, to the last transaction occurring before February 5th.¹⁶

Benefit Exhaustion Analyses

After determining the issuance month and issuance amount for each household, only the EBT transactions occurring in the issuance month were retained for each household. At this point, all months were combined to yield one file per State, and transaction records were aggregated to yield one record per household per day. The resulting data files used for benefit exhaustion analyses had the following variables:¹⁷

- Household account number
- Issuance day
- Issuance amount
- Month
- Day
- Total transaction amount per day
- Ending balance on last transaction of the day

The following analysis variables were constructed per household:

- Cumulative percent of issuance redeemed by: day 1, day 7, day 14, day 21, end of month
- Dollar amount of unspent issuance at the end of the issuance month
- Monthly ending balance (no variable construction)

Monthly statistics were calculated for each State, as the average across households for the month (yielding one record per State and month).¹⁸ State-level average monthly statistics were calculated as the average across months for each State. National estimates were calculated as the average of State-level estimates.

Inactivity Analyses

In addition to benefit exhaustion analyses, the ALERT samples were used for analysis of “purchase inactivity.” A household is defined as inactive during a month if they received an issuance but made no purchase transactions. Identification of months of inactivity is complicated by the fact that ALERT data do not contain records of issuance.

Chapter 3 describes imputation of issuance dates and amounts, and the identification of months of inactivity. For each household in the ALERT samples (10,000 households per month), the regular issuance day was imputed using 18 months of EBT data. After imputing issuance day, months of inactivity were identified for each household using all 12 months of the fiscal year. The household measures of inactivity used for tabulations are:

- Ever inactive during FY2003

¹⁶ Denoting these transactions as “t” and “t-1”, the issuance amount is calculated as $(\text{Available Balance})_t - (\text{Available Balance} - \text{Transaction Amount})_{t-1}$.

¹⁷ All data files used for the study are documented on CD-ROM. The data

¹⁸ The average over households of “cumulative percent of issuance redeemed by days since issuance” was weighted by household issuance amount. Similarly, the national estimates were calculated as weighted averages of State-level estimates.

- Number of months of inactivity during FY2003
- Any consecutive months of inactivity during FY2003
- Number of months of inactivity during FY2003, by quarter

The household measures of inactivity were aggregated by State for State-level measures of inactivity. State-level measures were aggregated to the national level, weighted by the annual EBT caseload of States.

Standard Errors of Estimates from ALERT Samples

The estimates of benefit exhaustion and inactivity from the ALERT files are based on samples of households and are subject to statistical sampling error. One indicator of the magnitude of sampling error associated with a given estimate is its standard error. The magnitude of the standard errors depends on: (1) the degree of variation in the variable within the population from which the sample is drawn; (2) the design of the sample, including such issues as stratification and sampling probabilities; and (3) the size of the sample on which the estimate is based.

The ALERT samples were constructed as simple random samples. The standard error of an estimated proportion from a simple random sample is:

$$\text{Std error} = \text{SQRT} \{ [p(1-p)(N-n)] / [(n-1)N] \}$$

Where p is the estimate of the proportion, N is the number of households in the population, and n is the sample size. Using this formula, and the information that average monthly sample sizes are approximately 9000 households per State, interested readers can calculate standard errors for all estimates of proportions contained in the final tabulations of ALERT samples (percent of redemption spent by time since issuance; percent of households with a monthly ending balance greater than \$1; percent of households with purchase inactivity).

Standard errors of estimated means cannot be obtained from generalized methods (such as described for estimates of proportions) because the standard error depends on the variance as well as sample size. To determine the range of standard errors for estimated means, and the adequacy of sample sizes for the ALERT samples, we determined the standard errors of estimated mean “ending balance” and “issuance carryover” based on one-month of data for the households in three States ranging in size from small to medium: Idaho (27,000 households), Massachusetts (61,000 households), and South Carolina (95,000 households). These standard errors were determined prior to finalizing the sample size and were based on population means and calculated standard errors for samples of 8,000 households and 10,000 households.

Samples of 8,000 households yield standard errors of estimate mean benefit carryover and ending balance ranging from 4 to 6 percent of the population mean; samples of 10,000 households yielded standard errors of estimates ranging from 3 to 5 percent of the population mean. As noted above, the final average monthly sample sizes most States (with the exception of Delaware, Iowa, and the Virgin Islands) ranged from 8218 to 9817 households. Thus the standard errors of estimated means are expected to range from 3 to 6 percent of the mean.

2.4. Construction of the Matched QC-ALERT Samples

Chapter 1 described the initial processing of QC data, and described the crosswalk files and methods of linking QC households and ALERT records. The full step-by-step account of the creation of the Matched QC-ALERT analysis files is:

- Step 1. Merge FNS-QC list of households to a master list of EBT household account numbers for each State – directly or via JP Morgan and/or State Food Stamp Agency crosswalk files. (See Chapter 1, section 1.5)
- Step 2. For the QC sample of households matched to EBT household accounts, extract EBT transactions from all 18 months of ALERT files.
- Step 4. Keep EBT data for the 5-month window centered on the FNS-QC sample month, and clean non-electronic swipes to correct the Available Balance and/or Transaction Date during the 5-month window. Combine the cleaned 5-month window with remainder of records to reconstruct the 18-month files.¹⁹
- Step 5. Impute the regular issuance day for each household, based on observed issuance days during the 18-month period.
- Step 6. Clean EBT data to remove voids and adjust refunds
- Step 7. Create **Calendar Month File**, keeping EBT data for three calendar months centered on the FNS-QC sample month. Create variables for tabulations and aggregate the three months of data per household to one record per household with “average monthly statistics.”
- Step 8. Create **Issuance Month File**, keeping EBT data for three issuance months centered on the FNS-QC sample month. Collapse EBT data to one record per household and day. Create analysis variables, and aggregate the three months of data per household to one record per household with “average monthly statistics.”
- Step 9. Merge together data from three sources: 1) household characteristics from FNS-QC data, 2) county characteristics (metro/micro and persistent poverty), and 3) EBT statistics.
- Step 11. Analyze household-level EBT statistics using SUDAAN statistical software. Generate estimates of EBT redemption patterns by household subgroups, and examine tests of statistical significance. Estimates are generated using FNS-QC sample weights and information about the sample design.

EBT benefit redemption statistics were constructed as average monthly statistics for the three months centered on the QC sample month. Only three months of data were used, because household characteristics (household type, etc.) were measured for the QC sample month and may not be constant throughout the fiscal year. Full specification of all constructed variables is included in the SAS programming code, which was delivered separately on CD-ROM.

¹⁹ When cleaning transaction dates, non-electronic swipes are never assigned a transaction date prior to the first observed transaction date for the household in the month in which the non-electronic swipe occurs. Thus, this cleaning has little impact imputed issuance days and it was not considered beneficial to clean all 18 months of data.

Estimates of EBT benefit redemption patterns from the Matched QC-ALERT files are based on a sample of households and are subject to statistical sampling error. A full description of the sample design is contained in the report *Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 2003*, and is not repeated here. The final tabulations of EBT benefit redemption patterns produced for this study from the Matched QC-ALERT sample focus on comparison of benefit redemption patterns for various subsets of households defined by household or geographic characteristics. Thus the final tabulations include indicators of the results of t-tests to denote statistically significant differences between subgroups. Standard errors of individual estimates are not printed on the tables, to improve readability.

Chapter 3

Imputation Procedures and Analysis of Benefit Exhaustion and Inactivity

Benefit exhaustion analysis includes three issues:

1. **Exhaustion** - How quickly do food stamp participants redeem their benefits, relative to the issuance date, in months in which they redeem any benefits?
2. **Carryover** - How prevalent is benefit carryover? What percent of benefits are carried over to the next month, overall and by participants with any carryover?
3. **Inactivity** – How prevalent is carryover of the entire issuance? In other words, what percent of participants receive an issuance and make no purchase transactions? This results in “skipped” months in the ALERT files.

Issuance dates and amounts must be imputed. Issuance amounts are observed by the change in available balance indicated on ALERT records.

The next sections describe, for the Matched QC-ALERT sample: (a) the procedures used to impute issuance amounts and dates, and the accuracy of imputed dates; (b) measurement of benefit carryover; and (c) determination of months of inactivity. The same procedures were applied to the ALERT Samples to obtain estimates of benefit exhaustion and inactivity at the State-level.

3.1. Sample for Imputation

The Matched QC-ALERT data is the sample used to test imputation procedures and examine the accuracy of imputation. This is the only available sample containing household food stamp case numbers, which can be mapped to State issuance schedules for some States. The sample is shown in Exhibit 8. The QC and ALERT data were matched for 46 States, as described in Chapter 1. Of the 46 matched States, 17 States assign regular issuance day to households based on household case numbers, and 10 States have single issuance days.²⁰ Therefore, issuance days may be assigned to households in 27 States, but must be imputed for 19 States. For this study, we imputed the issuance day for households in all 46 States and used information on assigned issuance days in 27 States to check and refine the accuracy of imputation procedures.

3.2. Imputation Procedures

A household’s food stamp issuance can be observed in the ALERT files from the change in “Available Balance Prior to Transaction.” Exhibit 9 shows EBT transactions for a household that receives issuance on the 6th of the month. ALERT files contain data for the available balance (AVAILBAL) and transaction amount (TRXAMT), and from these items we calculate the remaining balance (REMBAL). After sorting transactions by household, date, and time, we observe an

²⁰ Oklahoma issues benefits on the 1st and 2nd of each month, but we categorize the State as having a single issuance day because issuance is not significantly staggered.

Exhibit 8**QC-ALERT Matched Sample, By State and Issuance Practice**

State	Issuance Schedule (Days of month)	QC Households	Matched Sample of Households	
			Number ^a	Percent
Issuance based on case number				
Alabama	4-18	1,051	975	92.8%
Florida	1-15	1,268	1,250	98.6
Georgia	5-14	959	927	96.7
Idaho	1-5	650	646	99.4
Louisiana	5-14	1,127	963	85.5
Michigan	1-9	955	950	99.5
Minnesota	4-13	967	880	91.0
Mississippi	5-19	1,156	1,117	96.6
Montana	2-6	571	559	97.9
Nebraska	1-5	682	650	95.3
New Jersey	1-5 ^b	1,107	1,098	99.2
New York	1-10 ^b	1,047	833	79.6
Oregon	1-9	999	893	89.4
South Carolina	1-10	957	953	99.6
Tennessee	1-10	917	908	99.0
Texas	1,3,5,6,7,9,11,12,13,15	1,332	1,331	99.9
Washington	1-10	1,226	1,200	97.9
Single day issuance cycle				
Alaska	1 st	331	330	99.7
Nevada	1 st	720	709	98.5
New Hampshire	5 th	393	348	88.6
North Dakota	1 st	716	709	99.0
Oklahoma ^c	1 st , 2 nd	1,172	1,160	99.0
Rhode Island	1 st	610	607	99.5
South Dakota	10 th	404	403	99.8
Vermont	1 st	376	229	60.9
Virgin Islands	1 st	305	250	82.0
Virginia	1 st	1,080	1,077	99.7
Issuance based on name, SSN, or date of birth				
Arizona	1-13	1,170	1,166	99.7
Arkansas	5,10,15	1,429	1,420	99.4
Colorado	1-10	1,141	1,023	89.7
Connecticut	1-3	936	833	89.0
District of Columbia	1-10	674	621	92.1
Hawaii	3,5	813	806	99.1
Illinois	1,3,5,8,11,14,17,19,21,23	982	964	98.2
Indiana	1-10	1,134	1,110	97.9
Kansas	1-10	1,127	1,101	97.7
Kentucky	1-10	1,086	1,058	97.4
Maine	10-14	922	423	45.9
Maryland	6-15	1,249	1,219	97.6
Massachusetts	1,2,4,5,7,8,10,11,13,14	939	929	98.9
Missouri	1-22	1,082	970	89.7
North Carolina	3-7	1,049	960	91.5
Utah	5,11,15	750	679	90.5
Wisconsin	2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15	1,095	1,071	97.8
West Virginia	1-9	1,151	754	65.5
Wyoming	1-4	340	336	98.8
Summary				
46 matched States		42,147	39,148	92.9
Full QC sample		48,896	39,148	80.1

Notes:

a Number matched to EBT transactions for the 3-month window centered on the QC sample month.

b Issuance schedule varies by county within State.

c Oklahoma is treated like a "single-day issuance" State for the purpose of examining the accuracy of imputations.

Note: EBT was not implemented statewide for the full FY2003 in Maine, Mississippi, Islands, and West Virginia.

ISSUANCE as the difference in available balance and prior remaining balance.²¹ For each month and each household, we identify the day on which the available balance is observed to increase and call this the *observed issuance day* (ODAY) for that month.

State agencies assign a regular issuance day to each household at certification (e.g., the 6th of the month), and it does not generally change.²² However, if we look at a single month of EBT data, we cannot be certain that the ODAY for a household is the true issuance day. For example, if the household shown in Exhibit 9 is observed only in January (200301), we would incorrectly assume that they received their issuance on the 7th.²³

The regular issuance day for a household can be imputed from repeated observations of ODAY. We impute the issuance day as the minimum of ODAYS over multiple months. This relies on the fact that the probability of observing the true issuance day at least once during the year is equal to the sum of the probability of observing the true day for each month that a household is in the data. The longer the household is observed in the data, the greater the probability of observing the true issuance day.

To impute the issuance day for each Matched QC-ALERT household, we used all 18-months of ALERT data available to this study (July 2002-December 2003).²⁴ For this document, we also use all 18 months of ALERT data to examine benefit exhaustion. However, the final tabulations use only three months of ALERT data for each household, centered on the QC sample month, because we cannot be certain that household characteristics are the same outside that three-month window.

Exhibit 10 shows the importance of having multiple months of ALERT data for accurate imputation. This household receives issuance on the 3rd of the month, according to their case number and the State issuance schedule. Yet, over an 18-month period, the household only once redeemed benefits on their issuance day. Furthermore, the household redeemed no benefits in 5 months in which they received an issuance (Oct02, Nov02, Jan03, Jun03, and Nov03); these skipped months can result in an overestimate of the issuance amount in subsequent months if there is no accounting for skipped months.

Complete procedures for imputing the regular issuance day are listed in Exhibit 11. The basic imputation procedure of taking the minimum observed issuance day did not work for:

- New York City – Imputation procedures for NYC were modified to account for the occurrence of Sundays and holidays. (This procedure will also be used for Pennsylvania if we obtain a crosswalk file from that State.)

²¹ Issuances are observed on purchase transactions and balance inquiries. An increase in available balance will also occur as the result of voids and refunds.

²² Issuance is not restricted to normal banking days, and occurs on Sundays and holidays except in New York City and Pennsylvania. In those two areas, a household is assigned an issuance day that varies with the monthly calendar and is expressed as “the 1st (or 2nd, etc.) day of the month that is not a Sunday or holiday.”

²³ With a single month of data, we observe issuance with certainty only if a household has transactions on consecutive days around the time of issuance. However, consecutive transactions around issuance are rare because transaction volume declines significantly throughout the month.

²⁴ Case-months were not used to inform the imputation of issuance day if there were no issuances or multiple issuances observed in the month.

Exhibit 9**ALERT Transactions for a Household with Benefits Issuance on 6th of the Month**

YRMONTH	TRXTYPE	TDATE	ODAY	ISSUANCE	AVAILBAL	TRXAMT	REMBAL
200209	10	22SEP2002	.	.	21.46	21.44	0.02
200210	10	06OCT2002	6	187.00	187.02	26.42	160.60
	10	07OCT2002	.	.	160.60	21.81	138.79
	10	09OCT2002	.	.	138.79	23.39	115.40
	10	10OCT2002	.	.	115.40	24.04	91.36
	10	11OCT2002	.	.	91.36	22.90	68.46
	10	14OCT2002	.	.	68.46	28.88	39.58
	10	16OCT2002	.	.	39.58	14.65	24.93
	10	17OCT2002	.	.	24.93	12.66	12.27
	10	22OCT2002	.	.	12.27	10.73	1.54
200211	10	06NOV2002	6	187.00	188.54	67.74	120.80
	10	07NOV2002	.	.	120.80	30.14	90.66
	10	09NOV2002	.	.	90.66	26.99	63.67
	10	09NOV2002	.	.	63.67	3.33	60.34
	10	10NOV2002	.	.	60.34	12.53	47.81
	10	11NOV2002	.	.	47.81	5.72	42.09
	10	13NOV2002	.	.	42.09	6.46	35.63
	10	14NOV2002	.	.	35.63	16.88	18.75
	10	15NOV2002	.	.	18.75	4.70	14.05
	10	17NOV2002	.	.	14.05	11.11	2.94
	10	18NOV2002	.	.	2.94	2.94	0.00
200212	10	06DEC2002	6	187.00	187.00	80.97	106.03
	10	07DEC2002	.	.	106.03	15.52	90.51
	10	08DEC2002	.	.	90.51	1.99	88.52
	10	10DEC2002	.	.	88.52	8.30	80.22
	10	11DEC2002	.	.	80.22	14.84	65.38
	10	15DEC2002	.	.	65.38	18.41	46.97
	10	16DEC2002	.	.	46.97	12.54	34.43
	10	19DEC2002	.	.	34.43	18.21	16.22
	10	24DEC2002	.	.	16.22	6.66	9.56
	10	24DEC2002	.	.	9.56	8.70	0.86
200301	10	07JAN2003	7	183.00	183.86	38.82	145.04
	10	08JAN2003	.	.	145.04	18.99	126.05
	10	08JAN2003	.	.	126.05	68.38	57.67
	10	13JAN2003	.	.	57.67	22.05	35.62
	10	15JAN2003	.	.	35.62	17.71	17.91
	10	16JAN2003	.	.	17.91	4.26	13.65
	10	19JAN2003	.	.	13.65	12.20	1.45
	10	23JAN2003	.	.	1.45	0.79	0.66
200302	10	06FEB2003	6	183.00	183.66	9.97	173.69
	10	06FEB2003	.	.	173.69	23.29	150.40
	10	07FEB2003	.	.	150.40	46.33	104.07
	10	10FEB2003	.	.	104.07	13.14	90.93
	30	10FEB2003	.	.	0.00	-13.14	.
	10	10FEB2003	.	.	104.07	14.14	89.93
	10	11FEB2003	.	.	89.93	10.52	79.41

Exhibit 10**ALERT Transactions for a Household with Benefits Issuance on 3rd of the Month**

YRMONTH	TRXTYPE	TDATE	ODAY	ISSUANCE	AVAILBAL	TRXAMT	REMBAL
200207	10	09JUL2002	.	.	10.27	6.95	3.32
200208	10	15AUG2002	15	10	13.32	1.93	11.39
200209	10	04SEP2002	4	10	21.39	21.39	0.00
200212	10	14DEC2002	14	30	30.00	27.23	2.77
	10	17DEC2002	.	.	2.77	2.77	0.00
200302	10	09FEB2003	9	20	20.00	19.52	0.48
200303	10	24MAR2003	24	10	10.48	2.00	8.48
200304	10	01APR2003	.	.	8.48	7.80	0.68
200305	10	08MAY2003	8	20	20.68	20.68	0.00
200307	10	31JUL2003	31	20	20.00	20.00	0.00
200308	10	11AUG2003	11	10	10.00	8.67	1.33
200309	10	03SEP2003	3	15	16.33	16.33	0.00
200310	10	09OCT2003	9	10	10.00	5.00	5.00
	10	18OCT2003	.	.	5.00	5.00	0.00
200312	10	06DEC2003	6	20	20.00	9.33	10.67

Notes:

Household receives \$10 issuance each month except September 2003. Issuance amount appears to vary from \$10 to \$30 because there were no transactions following issuance and the household carried over benefits to the next month in October and November 2002, and January, April, June, and November 2003.

Exhibit 11**Procedures for Imputing Issuance Day**

Step-by-step procedures:

1. For each household and calendar month, identify *observed* issuances by creating three new variables on each EBT transaction record:
 - Remaining balance: $REMBAL = \text{Available balance} - \text{transaction amount}$
 - Issuance: $ISSUANCE = (\text{Available balance})_t - (\text{Remaining balance})_{t-1}$, if transaction type is not equal to Void or Refund
 - Observed issuance day: $ODAY = \text{transaction date}$ if $issuance > 0$
2. For States issuing benefits only on business days, convert ODAY to equal the number of business days since the first of the month.^a
3. Keep all records with an observed issuance.
4. Discard months following a month with no observed transactions.
5. Discard months with multiple issuances in the month.
6. Discard months with observed issuance outside the State's regular issuance schedule (e.g., if the State staggers issuance over the first 10 days of the month, discard all records of issuance after the 10th).^b
7. Identify the *minimum* ODAY for each household across all months (MINDAY).
8. Identify the *mode* ODAY for each household across all months (MODEDAY).
9. Assign imputed issuance day, $IDAY = MINDAY$ if distribution of MINDAY for households in the State is consistent with the staggered issuance schedule; else $IDAY = MODEDAY$.
10. Check the accuracy of imputation for States with a single issuance day or issuance schedule based on food stamp case number.

To estimate benefit exhaustion statistics:

11. Merge the single imputed issuance day (IDAY) for each household to each EBT transaction record.
12. For States issuing benefits only on business days, the imputed issuance day varies by month. For each month, convert IDAY (number business days since first of month) to calendar day.
13. Assign each transaction to an issuance month:
 - Determine if the transaction day (TDAY) is before or after the imputed issuance day
 - a) If $TDAY \geq IDAY$ then $IMONTH = \text{calendar month}$
 - b) If $TDAY < IDAY$ then $IMONTH = \text{calendar month} - 1$
14. For each transaction, calculate number of days since issuance ($TDAY - IDAY$)
15. Calculate benefit exhaustion statistics for each *issuance* month (IMONTH)

^a The conversion to business days accounts for the specific calendar of each month and federal holidays during FY2003; it does not account for State holidays.

^b This step is not initially implemented for States with a single issuance day, as will be clear from the subsequent discussion.

- Texas – In Texas, it appears that benefits are issued on the first of the month in special circumstances such as a change in household issuance amount. Using the rule of “minimum observed issuance day” led us to impute the issuance day as the 1st of the month for 47 percent of cases. This result is not consistent with the 10-day staggered issuance schedule and not consistent with issuance days assigned on the basis of case number. The MODE of observed issuance days resulted in more accurate imputations. (For States in which we cannot assign issuance days based on case number, we will use the MODE whenever the MIN yields a distribution of issuance days inconsistent with the staggered issuance schedule.)
- New Jersey – We were unable to accurately impute issuance days for New Jersey and suspect that their issuance schedule has not been communicated accurately, or changed since FY2003.

3.3. Imputation Results

The results from the imputation procedures are shown in Exhibit 12. Results are shown for groups of States: States with single-day issuance schedules and staggered issuance. Texas and New Jersey are shown separately due to the issues noted above. The last two columns of the table show the percent of households with an imputed issuance day that matches the day assigned on the basis of the State issuance schedule.

Exhibit 12 shows that imputed issuance days are accurate for 82.3 percent of households in States with single-day issuance. This implies that 17.7 percent of households were never observed redeeming benefits on the issuance day. The last column of the table shows that 91 percent of households have an imputed issuance day that is accurate within one-day. Imputation is accurate within one-day for 85 percent households in States with staggered issuance schedules. The exhibit also shows that our “mode” rule for Texas outperforms the “min” rule; and that imputation is not accurate for New Jersey.

The bottom two panels of Exhibit 12 show imputation results for subgroups of households. We wanted to identify households for which imputation yields poor results, and consider whether we should exclude households from the benefit exhaustion analyses. As shown in the middle panel of the exhibit, imputation is more accurate for households with 6 or more months of ALERT data, compared to those with fewer than 6 months of ALERT data. However, if we exclude households with fewer than 6 months of data, we lose 6 percent of the sample. The bottom panel of the table shows imputation results for “regular” versus “irregular” cases, where “irregular” cases are those that have no observed issuance within the State’s regular issuance cycle.²⁵ Dropping these cases (2.5 percent of the sample) improves the accuracy of imputations for States with a staggered issuance cycle. (We did not define irregular cases for States with single-day issuance.)

²⁵ For example, Alabama issues benefits on a staggered cycle from the 4th-18th. An “irregular” case is a case with no observed issuances on days within the window from the 4th to 18th.

Exhibit 12

Accuracy of Issuance Imputation, By Issuance and Case Characteristics ^{3/4} 27 States with Single Day Issuance or Staggered Issuance Based on Case Number

Group of States	Household Subgroup	Number Households	Percent of households with accurate imputed issuance day ^a	
			Exact match	Within 1 day
By State issuance practice				
Single day	All households	5,829	82.26	91.49
Staggered	All households	13,670	75.85	84.91
Texas (using MODE)	All households	1,321	82.82	87.89
Texas (using MIN)	All households	1,321	40.05	42.77
New Jersey	All households	1,098	27.41	64.12
By State issuance practice and months in ALERT				
Single day	≥ 6 months ALERT	5,515	83.92	92.87
	< 6 months ALERT	314	53.18	67.20
Staggered	≥ 6 months ALERT	12,913	76.96	85.69
	< 6 months ALERT	757	55.68	71.60
Texas (using MODE)	≥ 6 months ALERT	1,233	84.27	89.62
	< 6 months ALERT	88	62.50	63.64
New Jersey	≥ 6 months ALERT	1,042	37.52	64.78
	< 6 months ALERT	56	17.86	51.79
By State issuance practice and “regular case”^b				
Single day	Regular	5,829	82.26	91.49
Staggered	Regular	13,170	78.73	87.36
	Irregular	500	0.00	20.40
Texas (using MODE)	Regular	1,314	83.26	88.36
	Irregular	7	0.00	0.00
New Jersey	Regular	1,067	28.21	65.60
	Irregular	31	0.00	12.90
<p>a Accuracy is assessed by comparing the imputed day to the State schedule of issuance days corresponding to case numbers.</p> <p>b A “regular” case is defined as having at least one observed issuance day within the State’s regular issuance cycle; an irregular case is defined as having no observed issuance days within the State’s regular issuance cycle.</p> <p>c Texas imputation is based on the mode of observed issuance days, not the minimum.</p>				

Exhibit 13 shows imputation results by State for all households except “irregular” cases. Accuracy varies by State, from 53 percent in Idaho to 96 percent in South Carolina. Two-thirds (18 or 27) of States have imputed issuance days estimated to be greater than 90 percent accurate to within a day. The relevant question, however, is not “how accurate are imputed issuance days?” but “how accurate are benefit exhaustion estimates based on imputed issuance days?”

Exhibit 13**Accuracy of Issuance Imputation By State ^{3/4} 27 States with Single Day Issuance or Staggered Issuance Based on Case Number**

State	Issuance Schedule	Number Households	Percent of households with accurate imputed issuance day ^a	
			Exact match	Within 1 day
Single Day Issuance				
Alaska	1 st	324	86.73	94.14
Nevada	1 st	703	74.11	82.22
New Hampshire	5 th	353	84.42	92.35
North Dakota	1 st	695	86.06	93.09
Oklahoma	1 st , 2 nd	1,156	71.63	92.82
Rhode Island	1 st	606	83.99	91.42
South Dakota	10 th	396	87.37	91.41
Vermont	1 st	230	91.74	94.78
Virgin Islands	1 st	295	92.88	95.93
Virginia	1 st	1,071	85.34	91.97
Staggered Issuance^b				
Alabama	4-18	960	86.25	91.56
Florida	1-15	1,202	72.32	80.30
Georgia	5-14	913	88.17	94.09
Idaho	1-5	622	21.22	53.54
Louisiana	5-14	888	64.30	70.38
Michigan	1-9	925	88.11	95.46
Minnesota	4-13	870	78.28	84.37
Mississippi	5-19	1,061	85.39	91.99
Montana	2-6	521	87.33	94.82
Nebraska	1-5	599	82.80	93.16
New Jersey	1-5 ^b	1,067	28.21	65.60
New York	1-10 ^b	753	74.24	93.09
Oregon	1-9	865	88.67	93.99
South Carolina	1-10	937	92.10	96.26
Tennessee	1-10	878	74.15	83.26
Texas ^c	1,3,5,6,7,9,11,12,13,15	1,314	83.26	88.36
Washington	1-10	1,175	82.55	89.45

a Accuracy is assessed by comparing the imputed day to the State schedule of issuance days corresponding to case numbers.

b Sample includes only “regular” cases, defined as having at least one observed issuance day within the State’s regular issuance cycle.

c Texas imputation is based on the mode of observed issuance days, not the minimum.

3.4. Benefit Exhaustion Implied by Imputed Issuance Dates

By definition, imputed issuance days are accurate for households that redeem benefits on their issuance day at least once during the observed time period. But as shown in the preceding section, the imputed issuance day is incorrect for about ten percent of households. The imputed day is later than the actual day for households that never redeem benefits on the issuance day, and the imputed day is earlier than the actual day for households that receive an initial issuance on a day that precedes their regular issuance day. Since incorrect days may be before or after the actual day, they may average out. The question is, “on average, across households, do these inaccuracies affect benefit exhaustion statistics?”

Exhibit 14 shows the cumulative percent of benefits exhausted by time since issuance (day 1, day 7, day 14, etc.) for each State.²⁶ These statistics were calculated for each case-month observed in the 18-month period, and the average across case-months was weighted by issuance amount.²⁷ Benefit exhaustion is measured relative to the actual issuance day for 27 States, and relative to the imputed day for all 46 States in the Matched QC-ALERT sample.

Exhibit 14 shows that there are significant differences in benefit exhaustion between States. This exhibit also allows us to compare benefit exhaustion based on actual and imputed days for a given State. For most States, the differences between statistics based on actual and imputed days are small, with the exception of Idaho and New Jersey. The New Jersey statistics based on imputed day are more consistent with other States, leading us to believe that there is a problem in applying the New Jersey issuance schedule to case numbers.

Exhibit 15 shows that most differences between benefit exhaustion statistics based on actual and imputed days are statistically significant, due to the large sample size, but the magnitudes of these differences are small. The differences between estimates based on actual and imputed issuance day never exceeds two percentage points, with the exception of estimates for “day 1” (and estimates for Idaho and New Jersey). For this reason, we are comfortable using imputed issuance days to calculate benefit exhaustion.

For the final tabulations, we calculated benefit exhaustion statistics for the Matched QC-ALERT sample and the Full ALERT Samples using actual issuance days for households in States with single-day issuance, and using imputed days for all other States. We adjusted imputed issuance days, to be consistent with State issuance schedules. Households with an imputed issuance day that was after the last day in the State schedule, but no more than 3 days past the end of the State schedule, were assigned the last day in the schedule. For example, consider a State with a staggered issuance schedule with benefits issued during the first ten days of the month. If a household has an imputed issuance day of the 13th (because the household never made a purchase earlier than the 13th of the month), then we assigned an imputed day of the 10th. All households with imputed days after the 13th

²⁶ For examining benefit exhaustion, we discard months with multiple issuances in the month.

²⁷ The average across households is weighted by issuance amount so that we can characterize the results in terms of the percent of State issuance exhausted at each time point.

Exhibit 14

Estimated Benefit Exhaustion Using Imputed Issuance Days and Assigned Issuance Days

State	Source of issuance day	Number of case-months	Cumulative percent of benefits redeemed by time since issuance				
			Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	Month end
<i>Issuance base on case number</i>							
Alab ama	Imputed	12, 144	29. 46	70. 72	87. 1	94. 96	99. 29
	Assi gned	12, 057	30. 97	72. 51	87. 59	95. 05	99. 22
Flori da	Imputed	15, 143	19. 66	62. 42	82. 31	93. 18	99. 79
	Assi gned	14, 822	21. 68	63. 28	81. 08	91. 36	99. 78
Georgi a	Imputed	12, 414	29. 88	72. 83	88. 49	95. 89	99. 79
	Assi gned	12, 357	30. 94	73. 28	88. 67	95. 91	99. 80
Idaho	Imputed	7, 747	19. 70	60. 23	79. 91	92. 33	99. 92
	Assi gned	6, 888	7. 53	48. 79	68. 48	80. 81	99. 86
Loui si ana	Imputed	11, 179	23. 00	64. 81	80. 67	88. 45	99. 00
	Assi gned	11, 619	23. 91	62. 1	76. 40	85. 29	99. 19
Mi chi gan	Imputed	12, 092	25. 53	67. 22	84. 65	94. 42	100. 12
	Assi gned	12, 075	25. 67	67	84. 46	94. 34	100. 10
Mi nnesota	Imputed	11, 075	20. 48	63. 15	83. 03	93. 62	99. 75
	Assi gned	10, 878	24. 95	65. 99	83. 90	93. 93	99. 79
Mi ssi ssi ppi	Imputed	8, 973	31. 10	74. 61	89. 14	96. 01	99. 63
	Assi gned	8, 988	30. 30	74. 48	89. 02	95. 92	99. 63
Montana	Imputed	5, 947	20. 35	61. 87	81. 62	93. 28	100. 17
	Assi gned	5, 907	20. 62	61. 95	81. 63	93. 34	100. 18
Nebraska	Imputed	7, 466	16. 85	57. 89	78. 84	91. 74	99. 77
	Assi gned	7, 393	18. 29	58. 25	78. 92	91. 88	99. 80
New Jersey	Imputed	14, 208	7. 43	62. 7	82. 67	93. 54	100. 35
	Assi gned	12, 672	11. 68	57. 42	76. 09	86. 47	100. 86
New York	Imputed	11, 168	9. 12	58. 78	79. 67	92. 17	100. 30
	Assi gned	11, 117	9. 75	58. 6	79. 55	92. 11	100. 29
Oregon	Imputed	10, 860	20. 79	63. 62	83. 05	93. 90	99. 88
	Assi gned	10, 811	22. 11	64. 21	83. 23	93. 90	99. 75
South Caroli na	Imputed	13, 156	27. 49	70. 97	87. 26	95. 45	99. 90
	Assi gned	13, 116	28. 39	71. 39	87. 39	95. 48	99. 87
Tennessee	Imputed	11, 316	20. 89	65. 09	83. 65	94. 01	99. 92
	Assi gned	11, 039	25. 44	67. 49	84. 74	94. 29	99. 76
Texas	Imputed	13, 712	25. 65	65. 79	83. 42	93. 23	99. 73
	Assi gned	14, 103	25. 17	65. 92	83. 56	93. 40	99. 73
Washi ngton	Imputed	14, 941	17. 87	62. 47	82. 39	93. 29	99. 49
	Assi gned	14, 735	20. 47	63. 52	82. 48	93. 00	99. 48

(Continued)

Notes: The cumulative percent exhausted for each State is calculated as the mean across households, weighted by monthly issuance amount. The number of case months differs when using imputed versus assigned issuance days because different "issuance months" are dropped from the analysis due to multiple issuances.

Exhibit 14 (continued)

Estimated Benefit Exhaustion Using Imputed Issuance Days and Assigned Issuance Days

State	Source of issuance day	Number Case-months	Cumulative percent of benefits redeemed by time since issuance				
			Day 1	Day 7	Day14	Day 21	Month end
<i>Single day issuance</i>							
Alaska	Imputed	3,228	17.13	57.98	78.47	90.94	99.41
	Assigned	3,229	16.80	57.86	78.33	90.87	99.43
Nevada	Imputed	8,158	11.28	46.34	67.86	85.52	101.38
	Assigned	8,112	9.98	44.32	66.31	84.69	101.53
New Hampshire	Imputed	4,535	26.18	64.54	83.30	93.96	99.83
	Assigned	4,537	25.69	64.35	83.16	93.92	99.88
North Dakota	Imputed	9,026	19.75	58.16	78.02	90.88	99.86
	Assigned	9,027	19.42	57.92	77.80	90.67	99.87
Oklahoma	Imputed	14,691	17.57	63.18	82.28	93.38	100.13
	Assigned	14,529	20.22	62.91	82.04	93.12	100.05
Rhode Island	Imputed	7,046	17.73	60.56	78.85	89.10	102.57
	Assigned	7,038	17.40	60.34	78.70	89.04	102.57
South Dakota	Imputed	5,170	25.47	66.33	84.01	93.64	99.62
	Assigned	5,174	25.35	66.55	84.02	93.56	99.55
Vermont	Imputed	2,620	22.77	65.30	83.87	94.15	100.03
	Assigned	2,620	22.56	65.09	83.74	94.00	100.02
Virgin Islands	Imputed	2,888	27.87	70.33	85.78	94.49	100.09
	Assigned	2,888	27.52	70.08	85.71	94.47	100.11
Virginia	Imputed	14,203	22.20	65.14	83.82	94.06	100.42
	Assigned	14,203	21.85	64.87	83.61	93.96	100.44
<i>Issuance base on name, SSN, of date of birth</i>							
Arizona	Imputed	14,726	22.06	64.65	84.01	94.36	99.94
Arkansas	Imputed	17,846	25.99	65.97	84.96	94.54	99.51
Colorado	Imputed	12,074	20.92	63.23	82.15	92.98	99.45
Connecticut	Imputed	10,867	22.06	68.87	86.32	95.23	100.39
DC	Imputed	7,744	15.24	63.1	84.03	94.45	100.30
Hawaii	Imputed	10,789	10.91	52.99	75.5	89.06	99.88
Illinois	Imputed	12,132	19.32	61.56	80.4	91.86	99.92
Indiana	Imputed	14,505	19.60	62.81	82.85	93.88	100.15
Kansas	Imputed	14,002	24.02	65.57	83.71	94.11	99.93
Kentucky	Imputed	14,405	19.46	62.98	83.14	93.91	100.08
Maine	Imputed	4,264	20.91	64.22	84.15	93.81	99.46
Maryland	Imputed	15,482	22.37	67.85	85.63	94.83	100.08
Massachusetts	Imputed	12,269	24.66	67.57	85.68	95.04	100.09
Missouri	Imputed	13,926	20.59	62.05	82.3	93.26	99.65
North Carolina	Imputed	12,219	25.28	67.77	85.69	94.94	99.93
Utah	Imputed	8,027	19.13	56.7	78.95	91.45	99.44
West Virginia	Imputed	7,137	21.82	65.32	83.71	94.22	100.16
Wisconsin	Imputed	12,787	20.71	62.48	82.5	92.97	99.40
Wyoming	Imputed	3,502	16.09	57.08	77.65	90.96	99.81

Notes: The cumulative percent exhausted for each State is calculated as the mean across households, weighted by monthly issuance amount. The number of case months differs when using imputed versus assigned issuance days because different "issuance months" are dropped from the analysis due to multiple issuances.

Exhibit 15

Difference in Benefit Exhaustion Statistics Base on Imputed Issuance Day versus Assigned Issuance Day

Issuance Type / State	Number Case-months	Difference in cumulative percent of benefits redeemed by time since issuance (Imputed – Actual)				
		Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	Month end
<i>By Type of Issuance</i>						
Single day	74,993	0.80*	1.60*	1.30*	0.90*	0.10
Staggered excl. NJ	184,862	0.00	0.50*	0.90*	0.80*	-0.10
<i>By State</i>						
<i>Single day</i>						
Alaska	3,493	1.20*	0.80*	0.50*	0.40*	0.00
North Dakota	9,354	1.20*	1.10*	1.20*	1.10*	0.00
New Hampshire	4,618	1.60*	1.10*	1.40*	0.50*	-0.10
Nevada	8,468	2.00*	4.20*	3.10*	1.80*	-0.20
Oklahoma	15,004	-1.20*	1.90*	1.40*	1.00*	0.40*
Rhode Island	8,274	1.30*	1.20*	1.00*	0.70*	0.10
South Dakota	5,335	0.70*	0.60*	0.60*	0.20	0.20
Virginia	14,650	1.40*	1.70*	1.30*	0.80*	0.00
Virgin Islands	2,913	0.60*	0.60*	0.20*	0.10*	0.00
Vermont	2,884	0.60*	0.40*	0.40*	0.20*	0.10
<i>Staggered</i>						
Alabama	12,217	-0.30*	-0.50*	0.00	0.20*	0.10
Florida	15,647	-1.00*	-0.40	1.30*	1.80*	0.10
Georgia	12,579	0.00	0.10	0.30	0.20*	0.10*
Idaho	7,408	11.20*	11.00*	10.60*	10.80*	0.10
Louisiana	11,748	-0.50*	3.10*	4.70*	2.60*	-0.80*
Michigan	12,585	0.50*	0.50*	0.40*	0.20*	0.10*
Minnesota	11,578	-2.90*	-1.70*	-0.40	-0.20	-0.10
Mississippi	9,065	2.10*	1.20*	0.50*	0.10*	0.00
Montana	6,194	0.30*	-1.10	-1.90	-2.00	-2.10
Nebraska	7,656	-0.30*	0.30*	0.40*	0.20*	0.10
New Jersey	13,813	-4.30*	5.20*	6.70*	7.30*	0.80*
New York	11,684	-0.40	0.80*	0.50*	0.20	0.00
Oregon	11,145	-0.70*	0.00	0.10	0.20	0.20*
South Carolina	13,288	-0.10	0.10	0.10*	0.10*	0.10*
Tennessee	11,437	-2.80*	-1.20*	0.20	0.60*	0.40*
Texas	15,498	1.30*	0.00	-0.50*	-0.70*	-0.30
Washington	15,133	-1.50*	-0.50*	0.20*	0.50*	0.10*

* Denotes a statistically significant difference in the cumulative percent redeemed

of the month were dropped from the sample for benefit exhaustion analyses because the imputed days were “not in range.”²⁸

Estimation of Benefit Carryover

In addition to measuring the speed of benefit exhaustion, we examined the prevalence of benefit carryover and the average amount of benefits carried over to the next issuance month. Analysis of benefit carryover does not require precise determination of participants’ issuance dates. Benefit carryover is the amount of monthly issuance that remains in the EBT account at the time that the next monthly issuance is made. This amount is measured by comparing the available balance on two consecutive EBT transactions; in Exhibits 9 and 10, carryover is the difference between AVAILBAL and ISSUANCE.

3.5. Identifying Purchase Inactivity

Purchase inactivity is defined as a month in which a household receives issuance but makes no purchase transactions. In building our analysis file for the Matched QC-ALERT sample, we found that some households were not found in the ALERT files for the three-month period centered on the QC sample month.

Exhibit 16 shows the number of months of ALERT purchase activity for the Matched QC-ALERT sample. As seen in Exhibit 16, for States with complete EBT implementation in FY2003, 85.3% of QC cases have three calendar months of ALERT data, and 97.5% have at least 2 months of ALERT data. Among the 36,854 households in States with complete data, 14.6% have fewer than three months of data.

There are four reasons why a household in the Matched QC-ALERT sample may have fewer than three months of ALERT data:

- State EBT implementation was incomplete during FY2003, and ALERT did not capture all months of FS participation (in the matched sample, Maine, Mississippi, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia did not complete EBT implementation).
- The QC sample month was the first or last month of participation for the household (only two months of ALERT data are available in the three-month window centered on the sample month).
- Certification occurred at the end of the QC sample month and EBT activity began in the next calendar month (only one month of activity will be available).
- Households received an issuance but made no purchase transactions (**purchase inactivity**).

²⁸ Similarly, we adjusted imputed days in States issuing benefits on non-consecutive days. For example, Arkansas issues benefits on the 5th, 10th, and 15th of the month. Households with imputed days from the 6th to the 9th were assigned the 5th; households with imputed days from the 11th to 14th were assigned the 10th, and households with imputed days from the 16th to 19th were assigned the 15th.

Exhibit 16**Distribution of QC-ALERT Matched Sample by Number of Months of EBT Purchase Activity within 3-Month Window Centered on QC Sample Month^a**

Number months of ALERT in 3-month window	Full QC-ALERT matched sample	State with complete EBT implementation	State with incomplete EBT implementation (ME, MS, VI, WV)
One	1,260 (3.2%)	897 (2.4%)	363 (15.8%)
Two	4,937 (12.6%)	4,508 (12.2%)	429 (18.7%)
Three	32,951 (84.2%)	31,449 (85.3%)	1,502 (65.5%)
Total	39,148 (100.0%)	36,854 (100.0%)	2,294 (100.0%)

^a EBT purchase activity is defined as months in which purchase transactions occur. This measure does not reflect months with no purchase transaction when an issuance is received

For households with fewer than 3 months of ALERT data, we identified months in which households received an issuance but were inactive. Inactive months are identified by constructing a list of all calendar months of activity in ALERT, and determining when “skipped” months are followed by a month with observed issuance equal to two or three times the “benefit amount” (benefit amount is a data item in the QC file). Dummy records were created for the skipped months and the issuance was allocated across months. The same procedures were applied to the ALERT Samples for State-level estimates of purchase inactivity. The final tabulations included at the end of this report provide estimates of purchase inactivity based on the incidence of months in which an issuance was determined to be received, but no purchase transactions were observed.

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Table 1—Year of Statewide EBT Implementation, and EBT Status in FY2003

	Calendar year of statewide implementation ¹	Status in FY 2003	
		EBT vendor ²	Percent of redemption by EBT ³
Total U.S.	—	—	91.60%
Alabama	1997	Deluxe Data Systems	99.97
Alaska	1998	Deluxe Data Systems	99.98
Arizona	1999	Deluxe Data Systems	99.81
Arkansas	1998	Deluxe Data Systems	99.96
California	2004 *	Deluxe / Citibank	31.17
Colorado	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.94
Connecticut	1997	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.99
Delaware	2003 (Jun)	Deluxe Data Systems	19.30
District of Columbia	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.98
Florida	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.97
Georgia	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.98
Hawaii	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.98
Idaho	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.92
Illinois	1997	ACS Incorporated	99.89
Indiana	2002	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.95
Iowa	2003 (Aug)	Shazam / Iowa DHS	14.59
Kansas	1997	Deluxe Data Systems	99.95
Kentucky	1999	Deluxe Data Systems	99.68
Louisiana	1997	Deluxe / Citibank	99.98
Maine	2003 (Apr)	Maine DHS	35.95
Maryland	1993	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.46
Massachusetts	1997	Deluxe Data Systems	99.93
Michigan	2001	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.97
Minnesota	1998	Deluxe Data Systems	99.85
Mississippi	2002 *	Total System Services, Inc.	61.93
Missouri	1998	Deluxe Data Systems	99.95
Montana	2002	State of Montana	99.78
Nebraska	2002	Citibank (JP Morgan)	98.35
Nevada	2002	Citibank (JP Morgan)	98.01
New Hampshire	1999	Deluxe Data Systems	96.68
New Jersey	1999	Deluxe Data Systems	99.90
New Mexico	1995	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.96
New York	2001	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.97
North Carolina	1999	Citibank / Deluxe	99.98
North Dakota	1997	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.92
Ohio	1999	Stored Value Systems	99.70
Oklahoma	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.97
Oregon	1998	Deluxe Data Systems	99.68
Pennsylvania	1998	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.90
Rhode Island	1998	Deluxe Data Systems	99.98
South Carolina	1995	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.99
South Dakota	1997	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.78
Tennessee	1999	Deluxe Data Systems	99.97
Texas	1995	Texas DHS	99.96
Utah	1996	Deluxe Data Systems	99.92
Vermont	1998	Deluxe Data Systems	99.97
Virginia	2002	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.31
Virgin Islands	2003 (Jan)	Citibank (JP Morgan)	73.22
Washington	1999	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.95
West Virginia	2003 *	Citibank (JP Morgan)	58.05
Wisconsin	2000	Citibank (JP Morgan)	99.84
Wyoming	2000	Stored Value Systems	99.89

— Not applicable.

¹ Shaded rows denote States where EBT was not operating statewide at the start of FY2003. Month of implementation is shown for States implementing EBT during FY2003; asterisk denotes States where EBT was operational in portions of the State at the start of FY2003, with additional roll-out during the year.

² Multiple vendors with '/' separator denote a change in vendor during FY2003.

³ Percent is less than 100 in fully implemented States due to: a) out-of-state redemption by recipients in non-EBT areas, and b) Ohio and Wyoming offline systems are not interoperable, and clients are issued paper coupons when they move out of State (per FNS/BRD).

Sources: USDA, FNS, Electronic Benefits Transfer Status Report, 2004 (year of implementation); ALERT, FY2003 (vendor); ALERT and USDA, FNS, Store Tracking and Redemption System-STARS, 2003 (percent EBT).

Table 2—Distribution of Food Stamp Authorized Retailers and Redemption by Detailed Store Type: Total United States, FY2003

	Number of authorized retailers		Amount of food stamp redemption	
	Number	Percent	Dollar amount (thousands)	Percent
Total	149,374	100.00%	\$21,277,076	100.00%
Supermarket	30,919	20.70	17,559,276	82.53
Large grocery	10,288	6.89	1,272,286	5.98
Small grocery	31,010	20.76	968,051	4.55
Convenience store	32,321	21.64	416,913	1.96
Combination grocery/gas	15,189	10.17	172,325	0.81
Specialty food	12,291	8.23	529,963	2.49
Other Types				
Combination grocery/bar	54	0.04	997	0.00
Combination grocery/restaurant ..	612	0.41	11,457	0.05
Combination grocery/merchandise	2,581	1.73	47,426	0.22
Other combination	8,191	5.48	123,002	0.58
Milk route	68	0.05	1,653	0.01
Bread route	16	0.01	272	0.00
Produce route	68	0.05	1,154	0.01
Other route	852	0.57	43,301	0.20
Health/natural food	994	0.67	13,934	0.07
Military commissary	183	0.12	16,526	0.08
Multi-stall farmers mkt	224	0.15	2,774	0.01
Non-profit coop	206	0.14	4,783	0.02
Produce stand	1,893	1.27	38,206	0.18
Wholesaler	22	0.01	1,608	0.01
Other firm	1,392	0.93	51,169	0.24

Note: Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k). All other store types were self-reported; "other firm" was self-reported and is not an aggregation of store types.

Source: USDA, FNS. Store Tracking and Redemption Subsystem-STARS, FY2003.

Table 3—Distribution of Food Stamp Authorized Retailers and Redemption by Detailed Store Type: By Region, FY2003

	Percent distribution by region						
	Northeast	Mid-Atlantic	Midwest	Southeast	Southwest	Mountain Plains	Western
Food Stamp Retailers							
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Supermarket	14.99	19.05	25.09	23.59	17.78	24.28	20.18
Large grocery	6.08	4.83	8.72	6.09	5.83	11.06	7.44
Small grocery	39.26	26.60	16.97	13.20	15.74	11.23	20.90
Convenience store	13.72	17.58	17.36	22.26	33.95	21.12	24.94
Combination grocery/gas	5.62	10.43	12.38	14.41	7.59	12.20	8.13
Specialty food	9.57	7.46	7.59	8.28	9.11	8.47	7.56
Other Types							
Combination grocery/bar	0.00	0.14	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.05
Combination grocery/restaurant ..	0.20	0.70	0.35	0.53	0.30	0.30	0.40
Combination grocery/merchandise	0.71	2.80	0.41	1.95	2.74	1.89	1.80
Other combination	6.43	6.53	8.30	6.05	4.64	3.86	2.46
Milk route	0.06	0.06	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.13	0.05
Bread route	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.02
Produce route	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.08	0.05	0.02	0.06
Other route	0.37	0.52	0.99	0.39	0.59	1.24	0.35
Health/natural food	1.06	0.67	0.54	0.40	0.17	1.18	0.88
Military commissary	0.05	0.14	0.04	0.17	0.13	0.15	0.16
Multi-stall farmers mkt	0.09	0.28	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.25	0.35
Non-profit coop	0.23	0.15	0.15	0.11	0.03	0.27	0.11
Produce stand	1.05	1.62	0.79	1.76	0.78	0.79	1.53
Wholesaler	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02
Other firm	0.45	0.34	0.25	0.63	0.48	1.51	2.61
Dollars Redeemed							
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Supermarket	69.30	80.84	83.37	86.18	86.56	86.30	80.97
Large grocery	8.61	4.30	5.68	6.62	4.86	6.04	5.71
Small grocery	13.53	6.31	4.15	2.33	2.37	1.53	4.34
Convenience store	1.72	1.92	1.85	1.30	2.39	1.84	2.80
Combination grocery/gas	0.40	1.06	0.93	0.77	0.46	1.10	1.09
Specialty food	5.37	3.86	2.41	1.82	1.74	1.25	2.01
Other Types							
Combination grocery/bar	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Combination grocery/restaurant ..	0.02	0.10	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.08
Combination grocery/merchandise	0.07	0.13	0.17	0.15	0.18	0.22	0.58
Other combination	0.29	0.63	0.95	0.32	0.82	0.69	0.42
Milk route	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00
Bread route	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Produce route	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Other route	0.23	0.20	0.20	0.11	0.33	0.38	0.12
Health/natural food	0.13	0.06	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.09	0.16
Military commissary	0.02	0.10	0.01	0.10	0.05	0.08	0.17
Multi-stall farmers mkt	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.04
Non-profit coop	0.03	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.04
Produce stand	0.22	0.29	0.15	0.10	0.09	0.02	0.37
Wholesaler	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.06	0.01
Other firm	0.07	0.04	0.02	0.07	0.05	0.33	1.08

Note: Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

All other store types were self-reported; "other firm" was self-reported and is not an aggregation of store types.

Source: USDA, FNS. Store Tracking and Redemption Subsystem-STARs, FY2003.

Table 4—Number of Food Stamp Authorized Retailers, and Distribution by Store Type: By State, FY2003

	Number of retailers	Percent distribution of retailers by store type						
		Super-market	Large grocery	Small grocery	Convenience store	Comb. grocery /gas	Specialty food	Other type
Total U.S.	149,374	20.7%	6.9%	20.8%	21.6%	10.2%	8.2%	11.6%
Alabama	2,611	24.0	8.3	11.7	16.8	21.9	8.4	9.0
Alaska	463	17.3	11.4	15.8	7.3	13.6	3.5	31.1
Arizona	2,296	24.8	3.8	12.2	19.2	25.2	2.8	12.2
Arkansas	1,519	23.2	8.3	22.0	25.8	1.3	9.2	10.1
California	17,989	18.7	8.1	25.0	26.6	4.6	8.0	8.9
Colorado	1,386	30.2	8.2	10.6	29.8	2.2	5.8	13.3
Connecticut	1,460	21.2	5.1	28.5	25.3	4.1	5.1	10.8
Delaware	397	19.1	3.3	16.9	27.7	11.1	9.8	12.1
Dist. of Columbia	401	7.5	5.2	39.4	23.9	1.0	8.5	14.5
Florida	7,477	23.6	6.5	13.0	16.2	16.6	8.9	15.1
Georgia	4,028	25.5	5.9	12.6	21.0	13.5	8.5	12.9
Hawaii	869	15.1	6.2	18.6	19.9	7.2	17.3	15.6
Idaho	551	29.6	12.3	14.5	14.3	5.6	8.9	14.7
Illinois	5,426	22.9	9.8	28.7	10.7	9.7	6.7	11.5
Indiana	2,567	27.3	9.0	10.9	9.1	17.2	6.9	19.7
Iowa	1,811	20.3	9.3	9.7	39.4	1.4	7.7	12.2
Kansas	1,028	30.8	13.4	9.9	25.0	0.5	8.1	12.3
Kentucky	3,201	16.4	6.2	18.9	30.6	12.3	3.5	12.0
Louisiana	3,580	13.4	5.8	26.3	26.8	1.8	13.9	11.9
Maine	1,445	9.1	8.6	7.5	35.2	15.0	7.0	17.7
Maryland	2,256	24.1	4.0	22.0	21.6	1.3	9.5	17.5
Massachusetts	2,516	21.1	5.0	16.4	34.2	2.8	6.1	14.5
Michigan	4,992	22.6	6.8	7.9	34.7	9.9	7.0	11.1
Minnesota	1,888	25.4	13.7	14.9	10.0	19.4	10.8	5.8
Mississippi	2,661	13.1	5.4	12.3	14.7	36.1	7.9	10.4
Missouri	2,884	23.8	8.6	10.8	8.0	30.0	7.7	11.1
Montana	666	17.9	12.2	10.5	34.2	6.0	7.4	11.9
Nebraska	777	25.1	20.8	12.6	1.9	15.3	15.2	9.0
Nevada	817	28.4	6.7	9.6	34.0	5.4	5.0	10.9
New Hampshire	482	27.4	8.7	6.6	22.8	19.7	4.2	10.6
New Jersey	3,662	17.9	4.5	44.9	11.4	0.4	6.8	14.0
New Mexico	1,034	16.4	6.3	10.4	33.1	10.9	7.4	15.6
New York	13,623	13.5	6.1	51.1	4.8	4.4	11.4	8.7
North Carolina	3,900	32.1	5.0	8.7	29.0	5.5	12.4	7.3
North Dakota	411	14.8	19.2	18.2	16.3	5.8	11.7	13.9
Ohio	5,282	25.0	7.3	17.1	17.9	12.6	8.5	11.5
Oklahoma	2,243	16.6	6.2	8.2	56.8	0.6	4.0	7.6
Oregon	2,200	20.3	6.0	14.5	34.5	4.6	6.0	14.1
Pennsylvania	6,918	18.7	5.6	29.2	14.4	8.7	8.3	15.1
Rhode Island	732	11.8	4.4	17.6	35.1	6.8	9.3	15.0
South Carolina	2,091	30.8	3.4	10.3	27.9	6.0	12.7	8.8
South Dakota	524	15.3	17.2	17.8	24.4	4.2	7.6	13.6
Tennessee	3,549	21.8	7.1	17.4	27.9	5.6	4.0	16.3
Texas	10,316	18.9	5.3	13.3	32.8	11.7	8.7	9.3
Utah	743	31.8	6.7	11.4	9.7	18.7	12.6	9.0
Vermont	439	18.2	7.3	14.8	18.4	15.5	3.2	22.6
Virginia	3,550	23.6	4.4	10.4	29.5	14.2	7.0	10.9
Washington	3,034	24.6	6.1	12.1	16.9	20.0	6.6	13.8
West Virginia	2,095	12.0	4.6	16.4	11.9	39.5	3.5	12.1
Wisconsin	1,873	34.8	9.3	17.2	7.8	12.2	6.9	11.7
Wyoming	259	25.9	11.2	7.7	35.1	3.9	5.8	10.4
Virgin Islands	171	9.9	5.3	42.7	9.9	1.8	9.9	20.5

Note: Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms; 20 store types were collapsed into the 7 categories shown in the table. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

Source: USDA, FNS. Store Tracking and Redemption Subsystem-STARs, FY2003.

Table 5—Distribution of EBT Transactions and Redemption by Metropolitan, Micropolitan, and Rural Areas, FY2003

	Percent of EBT transactions by retailer location ¹			Percent of EBT redemption by retailer location ¹		
	Metropolitan	Micropolitan	Rural	Metropolitan	Micropolitan	Rural
Total U.S.	78.8%	12.8%	8.5%	78.6%	13.3%	8.2%
Alabama	67.0	15.4	17.6	68.3	15.7	16.0
Alaska	43.7	8.4	48.0	43.5	6.8	49.7
Arizona	80.7	11.7	7.6	80.9	12.1	7.0
Arkansas	48.3	26.8	25.0	50.8	26.3	22.9
California	99.8	0.2	0.0	99.8	0.2	0.0
Colorado	82.4	4.7	12.9	84.1	4.7	11.2
Connecticut	95.3	4.6	0.0	94.9	5.0	0.0
Delaware	39.6	60.1	0.3	40.6	59.2	0.2
District of Columbia	99.9	0.1	0.0	99.9	0.1	0.0
Florida	92.8	4.4	2.8	92.8	4.5	2.7
Georgia	72.0	15.4	12.7	73.5	15.1	11.4
Hawaii	68.7	31.3	0.0	65.5	34.5	0.0
Idaho	68.4	19.8	11.9	70.3	19.8	9.9
Illinois	87.1	8.7	4.2	87.1	9.0	3.8
Indiana	81.4	14.3	4.3	82.4	13.8	3.9
Iowa	56.6	31.6	11.8	57.0	32.0	11.0
Kansas	62.1	25.3	12.6	63.1	26.4	10.5
Kentucky	42.9	21.1	36.0	43.6	22.1	34.3
Louisiana	69.7	22.0	8.3	70.1	22.3	7.5
Maine	63.7	9.9	26.4	62.2	10.8	27.0
Maryland	94.1	4.2	1.7	93.2	5.0	1.8
Massachusetts	99.7	0.2	0.1	99.5	0.4	0.1
Michigan	84.6	8.3	7.1	83.4	9.2	7.4
Minnesota	73.5	15.6	10.9	74.7	15.8	9.5
Mississippi	35.4	41.1	23.5	37.7	41.3	21.0
Missouri	67.0	17.3	15.7	68.5	17.7	13.8
Montana	35.1	24.2	40.7	37.1	26.3	36.6
Nebraska	61.5	24.3	14.2	62.9	25.3	11.8
Nevada	91.0	5.8	3.2	90.4	6.6	3.0
New Hampshire	56.8	34.5	8.7	57.4	34.0	8.6
New Jersey	99.9	0.0	0.0	99.9	0.1	0.0
New Mexico	57.2	37.0	5.8	58.9	36.0	5.1
New York	95.1	3.8	1.1	93.7	4.9	1.4
North Carolina	63.1	27.1	9.8	64.5	26.3	9.1
North Dakota	40.1	24.0	35.9	40.9	26.3	32.8
Ohio	81.1	14.6	4.4	81.8	14.2	4.0
Oklahoma	60.7	21.5	17.8	61.7	22.7	15.6
Oregon	71.3	24.1	4.6	72.3	23.3	4.4
Pennsylvania	87.3	10.1	2.6	86.7	10.7	2.6
Rhode Island	99.9	0.1	0.0	99.8	0.1	0.0
South Carolina	66.3	21.8	11.9	67.8	21.8	10.4
South Dakota	36.8	20.9	42.2	37.6	23.2	39.3
Tennessee	69.0	16.3	14.8	69.8	16.8	13.4
Texas	84.7	8.8	6.5	85.0	9.1	5.9
Utah	82.0	8.7	9.3	82.3	8.8	8.9
Vermont	30.4	40.7	29.0	30.8	40.0	29.3
Virginia	77.7	4.9	17.4	77.7	5.3	17.0
Virgin Islands	97.7	2.1	0.2	97.5	2.3	0.2
Washington	85.3	10.4	4.3	85.3	10.6	4.1
West Virginia	63.6	14.5	21.9	62.6	15.1	22.3
Wisconsin	85.2	6.5	8.3	83.6	7.4	9.0
Wyoming	34.9	40.7	24.4	35.0	42.1	22.9

¹ For the food stamp caseload of each State, table shows the location where benefits were redeemed based on retailer addresses. Because households may cross county and State boundaries to redeem benefits, the distribution of redemption by retailer location may differ from the distribution of benefits by household location.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table 6—State EBT Caseloads, Transactions, and Redemption, FY2003

	Annual			Average monthly		
	Number of households using EBT	Number purchase transactions (millions)	Amount redeemed (millions)	Number of households using EBT	Number purchase transactions	Amount redeemed (millions)
Total U.S.	13,035,976	756.8	\$19,310.2	8,466,608	64,626,119	\$1,649.5
Alabama	266,183	16.6	465.8	182,866	1,383,490	38.8
Alaska	29,368	1.8	65.8	17,297	152,530	5.5
Arizona	295,585	19.3	496.6	183,585	1,611,535	41.4
Arkansas	185,500	11.4	303.9	123,640	951,911	25.3
California ¹	518,712	21.5	561.0	220,739	1,789,525	46.7
Colorado	144,951	7.2	202.9	83,532	597,401	16.9
Connecticut	126,177	6.2	165.9	88,150	513,075	13.8
Delaware ¹	21,445	0.2	6.6	11,443	72,752	2.2
District of Columbia	55,304	3.4	87.8	38,308	279,807	7.3
Florida	803,656	35.8	988.5	482,533	2,986,397	82.4
Georgia	458,035	26.7	780.4	308,361	2,225,169	65.0
Hawaii	68,035	7.6	156.1	49,510	631,506	13.0
Idaho	52,710	3.0	76.4	32,452	247,320	6.4
Illinois	643,654	39.2	960.4	428,984	3,559,995	87.3
Indiana	296,497	17.7	483.6	198,184	1,473,432	40.3
Iowa ¹	43,076	0.5	11.8	31,799	243,996	5.9
Kansas	105,647	5.5	140.2	67,170	459,223	11.7
Kentucky	295,493	18.8	486.1	209,885	1,565,019	40.5
Louisiana	370,871	25.3	628.9	254,497	2,301,813	57.2
Maine ¹	75,138	1.7	43.6	54,528	347,707	8.7
Maryland	170,517	9.9	254.5	111,999	821,570	21.2
Massachusetts	195,280	8.5	253.2	124,201	710,297	21.1
Michigan	527,409	30.2	780.9	351,646	2,516,251	65.1
Minnesota	158,748	7.6	224.1	96,824	631,562	18.7
Mississippi ¹	183,740	7.5	198.9	142,947	1,076,437	28.4
Missouri	359,838	21.6	565.6	243,648	1,797,114	47.1
Montana	43,265	2.8	68.5	28,876	234,372	5.7
Nebraska	67,440	3.3	89.0	41,611	279,128	7.4
Nevada	85,143	4.2	113.2	47,374	351,201	9.4
New Hampshire	33,468	1.3	39.9	20,798	108,921	3.3
New Jersey	229,515	14.5	340.1	155,115	1,209,643	28.3
New Mexico	118,752	6.9	182.9	74,256	574,695	15.2
New York	1,004,648	82.1	1,665.5	735,648	6,839,211	138.8
North Carolina	434,877	20.6	585.5	267,400	1,869,374	53.2
North Dakota	25,214	1.4	36.6	16,813	115,835	3.1
Ohio	537,684	31.6	842.8	367,801	2,629,486	70.2
Oklahoma	236,232	15.3	361.9	149,280	1,276,225	30.2
Oregon	275,076	18.1	367.5	179,255	1,504,663	30.6
Pennsylvania	520,426	31.6	784.6	365,835	2,634,126	65.4
Rhode Island	46,742	2.8	69.7	33,836	235,993	5.8
South Carolina	256,161	14.9	442.0	183,577	1,244,662	36.8
South Dakota	31,932	1.9	50.4	20,021	162,191	4.2
Tennessee	463,994	26.6	720.0	312,598	2,217,365	60.0
Texas	1,181,303	70.8	1,874.7	726,384	5,897,684	156.2
Utah	71,317	3.8	99.5	39,414	318,975	8.3
Vermont	22,208	1.1	32.0	13,649	92,309	2.7
Virginia	261,033	13.2	357.2	167,393	1,099,225	29.8
Virgin Islands ¹	5,561	0.4	13.8	4,387	39,666	1.5
Washington	308,284	18.1	399.7	196,527	1,506,999	33.3
West Virginia ¹	124,584	5.1	126.8	59,230	428,606	10.6
Wisconsin	181,741	8.9	233.7	110,849	740,275	19.5
Wyoming	17,807	0.8	23.4	9,955	68,456	2.0

¹ At the start of FY2003, statewide EBT implementation was not complete in California, Delaware, Iowa, Maine, Mississippi, Virgin Islands, and West Virginia. Thus, EBT activity does not capture all food stamp redemption in these States.
Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003.

Table 7—Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Comparison of Full QC Sample with Matched QC-ALERT Sample, FY2003

	Full QC Sample			QC-ALERT Matched Sample		
	Sample size	Weighted sample size	Percent of households	Sample size	Weighted sample size	Percent of households
All households	48,896	8,971,219	100.0%	39,148	6,937,603	100.0%
Household type						
With and without children						
Households with children	26,340	4,909,222	54.7	21,152	3,717,128	53.6 *
Households without children	22,556	4,061,997	45.3	17,996	3,220,475	46.4 *
Types of households with children						
Single-adult households	16,979	3,075,152	34.3	13,863	2,418,552	34.9
Multiple-adult households	7,424	1,315,866	† 14.7	5,909	1,011,494	† 14.6
Children only	1,937	518,204	† 5.8	1,380	287,083	† 4.1 *
All households, by type						
With elderly	8,221	1,567,725	17.5	6,592	1,291,771	† 18.6 *
With disabled, nonelderly	12,132	2,088,693	23.3	9,756	1,703,523	24.6 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	21,445	4,024,768	44.9	17,113	2,982,027	43.0 *
Other households	7,098	1,290,033	† 14.4	5,687	960,282	† 13.8
Household size						
1	20,622	3,763,274	42.0	16,414	2,927,814	42.2
2	9,827	1,828,754	20.4	7,824	1,392,956	20.1
3	8,032	1,476,758	† 16.5	6,537	1,144,632	† 16.5
4+	10,415	1,902,434	21.2	8,373	1,472,201	21.2
Race of household head¹						
White	25,495	4,135,113	46.1	20,359	3,205,815	46.2
African American	14,150	2,938,325	32.8	11,902	2,385,990	34.4 *
Hispanic	5,986	1,491,242	† 16.6	4,369	1,058,380	† 15.3 *
Other	2,898	325,430	† 3.6	2,220	222,895	† 3.2 *
Employment status						
Households with earnings	13,853	2,532,589	28.2	11,171	1,982,463	28.6
Households without earnings	35,043	6,438,630	71.8	27,977	4,955,140	71.4
Receipt of TANF						
Yes	8,137	1,528,625	17.0	6,223	1,041,421	† 15.0 *
No	40,759	7,442,594	83.0	32,925	5,896,182	85.0 *
Food stamp benefit²						
\$10 or less	2,864	454,255	† 5.1	2,124	342,363	† 4.9
\$11-100	11,914	2,118,835	23.6	9,508	1,691,442	24.4 *
\$101-200	14,681	2,855,208	31.8	11,818	2,150,642	31.0 *
\$201-300	9,076	1,671,387	18.6	7,309	1,273,505	18.4
\$301 or more	10,361	1,871,535	20.9	8,389	1,479,652	21.3
Minimum benefit	2,850	451,799	† 5.0	2,117	341,036	† 4.9
Maximum benefit	9,862	1,930,985	21.5	7,485	1,432,218	20.6 *
Months in certification period						
≤ 6 months	19,675	3,710,517	41.4	16,507	3,172,770	45.7 *
7-12 months	25,044	4,463,389	49.8	18,933	3,040,344	43.8 *
>12 months	4,039	776,650	† 8.7	3,619	708,316	† 10.2 *

¹ Number of households by race of household head includes households with a nonparticipating head or "no adult listed on file".

² Food stamp benefit amount is measured by EBT issuance observed in the ALERT data.

* Denotes statistically significant difference between QC-ALERT Matched Sample and Full Sample (column 6 versus column 3). Differences are tested at the .05 level of significance.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample represents 77.3 percent of the full QC sample. Matched sample excludes Guam (no EBT system) and six States that were unable to provide data needed for linking QC households with ALERT data (California, Delaware, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania). Among States that could be matched, 92 percent of QC households were matched to ALERT data.

Table 7—Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Comparison of Full QC Sample with Matched QC-ALERT Sample, FY2003
— Continued

	Full QC Sample			QC-ALERT Matched Sample		
	Sample size	Weighted sample size	Percent of households	Sample size	Weighted sample size	Percent of households
Geographic location						
Region						
Northeast	5,528	1,085,516	12.1%	4,452	880,468	12.7%
Mid Atlantic	6,967	967,957	10.8	4,769	538,777	7.8 *
Midwest	8,443	2,084,161	23.2	7,898	1,986,332	28.6 *
Southeast	6,235	1,558,231	17.4	4,975	1,160,533	16.7 *
Southwest	6,416	1,300,573	14.5	4,874	1,188,815	17.1 *
Mountain Plains	8,155	620,544	6.9	6,430	512,348	7.4 *
West	6,870	1,347,382	15.0	5,750	670,331	9.7 *
Metro/Nonmetro areas						
Metropolitan	33,748	6,884,035	76.7	27,221	5,195,249	74.9 *
Nonmetro, micropolitan	7,761	1,138,156	12.7	5,981	917,047	13.2 *
Nonmetro, noncore	6,297	894,621	10.0	5,195	778,714	11.2 *
County with persistent poverty						
Yes	4,636	849,287	9.5	3,739	764,805	11.0 *
No	43,170	8,067,526	89.9	34,658	6,126,204	88.3 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference between QC-ALERT Matched Sample and Full Sample (column 6 versus column 3). Differences are tested at the .05 level of significance.

^ Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample represents 77.3 percent of the full QC sample. Matched sample excludes Guam (no EBT system) and six States that were unable to provide data needed for linking QC households with ALERT data (California, Delaware, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania). Among States that could be matched, 92 percent of QC households were matched to ALERT data.

Appendix A

EBT Benefit Redemption Characteristics:

Matched QC-ALERT Sample

Table A-1—Average Number of Monthly EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household, and Distribution of Households by Number of Transactions: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average number of transactions per household	Number of monthly transactions ¹					
		One	2-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	>20
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
All households	7.6	8.3%	36.9%	30.9%	14.0%	5.6%	4.3%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	9.7	1.8	25.0	37.5	20.6	8.7	6.4
Households without children	5.2*	15.8 *	50.7 *	23.2 *	6.4 *	2.0 *	1.8 *
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	9.4	2.0	25.6	38.1	20.6	8.1	5.5
Multiple-adult households	10.8*	1.2 *	20.4 *	36.1	22.3	10.7 *	9.2 *
Children only	8.3*	2.0	35.4 *	36.8	14.6 *	7.0	4.0
All households, by type							
With elderly	4.6	22.9	51.6	17.2	4.3	1.8	2.2
With disabled, nonelderly	6.1*	12.6 *	46.7 *	25.1 *	9.7 *	3.3 *	2.6
With children, no elderly or disabled	10.0*	1.3 *	23.1 *	38.1 *	21.6 *	9.2 *	6.6 *
Other households	7.1*	2.8 *	42.6 *	37.0 *	11.4 *	3.6 *	2.6
Household size							
1	5.0	16.1	51.8	22.7	6.0	1.9	1.5
2	7.3*	5.5 *	37.8 *	37.0 *	13.1 *	4.2 *	2.4 *
3	9.5*	1.5 *	24.6 *	39.0 *	21.8 *	8.0 *	5.1 *
4+	11.7*	0.8 *	16.1 *	35.0 *	24.8 *	12.4 *	11.0 *
Race of household head							
White	6.9	10.8	40.0	29.2	12.0	4.8	3.2
African American	8.1*	6.0 *	34.2 *	33.6 *	15.6 *	6.0 *	4.7 *
Hispanic	8.2*	6.6 *	35.1 *	30.3	16.1 *	6.4 *	5.5 *
Other	9.5*	5.3 *	32.0 *	29.2	16.5 *	8.1 *	9.0 *
Employment status							
Households with earnings	8.6	3.5	32.4	35.4	17.0	6.8	4.9
Households without earnings	7.2*	10.2 *	38.7 *	29.1 *	12.8 *	5.2 *	4.0 *
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	10.2	1.7	22.1	37.3	21.8	10.0	7.1
No	7.2*	9.5 *	39.6 *	29.7 *	12.6 *	4.8 *	3.8 *
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	1.6	58.3	41.0	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0
\$11-100	3.5*	18.9 *	64.2 *	14.5 *	1.8 *	0.5 *	0.1 *
\$101-200	7.0*	2.4 *	44.5	36.7 *	10.8 *	3.3 *	2.3 *
\$201-300	9.4*	0.2 *	21.4 *	46.8 *	20.7 *	7.0 *	3.8 *
\$301 or more	13.1*	0.2 *	7.2 *	34.3 *	30.2 *	14.9 *	13.3 *
Minimum benefit	1.6	58.2	41.0	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0
Maximum benefit	9.2*	1.5 *	29.1 *	38.4 *	18.1 *	7.4 *	5.5 *
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	8.9	2.4	30.2	37.0	18.0	7.3	5.3
7-12 months	6.9*	12.2 *	39.8 *	27.4 *	12.0 *	4.9 *	3.7 *
>12 months	4.7*	18.0 *	55.1 *	18.2 *	5.0 *	1.6 *	2.0 *

¹ Excludes households with zero transactions.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

‡ Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-1—Average Number of Monthly EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household, and Distribution of Households by Number of Transactions: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Average number of transactions per household	Number of monthly transactions ¹					
		One	2-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	>20
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	8.2	10.2%	34.5%	28.6%	13.6%	6.4%	6.7%
Mid Atlantic	7.1*	11.5	39.3 *	28.4	11.4	5.4	4.1 *
Midwest	6.9*	9.5	39.4 *	31.2	12.8	4.3 *	2.8 *
Southeast	7.5*	7.4 *	39.5 *	30.4	13.4	5.1	4.2 *
Southwest	8.4	5.8 *	33.4	32.4 *	16.5 *	6.7	5.2
Mountain Plains	7.2*	9.4	37.2	30.9	13.9	5.9	2.7 *
West	8.6	5.0 *	32.7	32.9 *	16.9 *	7.3	5.2
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	7.8	8.0	36.2	31.1	14.4	5.6	4.6
Nonmetro, micropolitan	7.3*	8.6	38.1	31.2	13.0	5.5	3.4 *
Nonmetro, noncore	7.0*	10.1 *	39.8 *	29.1	12.6	5.7	2.8 *
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	8.2	7.4	34.6	30.6	15.4	6.9	5.1
No	7.6*	8.4 *	37.2 *	30.9	13.8 *	5.5 *	4.2

¹ Excludes households with zero transactions.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-2—Average EBT Purchase Amount, and Distribution of Transactions by Dollar Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average purchase amount	Dollar amount of EBT purchase transactions							
		<\$5	\$5-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	\$51-75	\$76-100	\$101-200	>\$200
		<i>Percent of transactions</i>							
All households	\$27.90	23.0%	22.6%	23.5%	14.8%	6.6%	3.6%	4.9%	1.0%
Household type									
With and without children									
Households with children	31.53	21.1	21.4	23.4	15.4	7.2	4.1	6.0	1.4
Households without children	20.07*	27.1 *	25.4 *	23.8	13.4 *	5.3 *	2.6 *	2.4 *	0.1 *
Types of households with children									
Single-adult households	31.65	22.0	21.3	22.7	15.0	7.2	4.2	6.1	1.5
Multiple-adult households	31.75	19.7 *	21.3	24.2 *	16.3 *	7.1	4.1	5.9	1.4
Children only	29.36*	18.4 *	22.9	25.6 *	15.4	7.4	4.2	5.3 *	0.8 *
All households, by type									
With elderly	19.16	23.8	27.1	26.4	14.1	4.7	2.1	1.7	0.1
With disabled, nonelderly	25.83*	24.3	23.6 *	23.1 *	14.3	6.4 *	3.4 *	4.2 *	0.8 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	31.85*	20.9 *	21.2 *	23.4 *	15.6 *	7.2 *	4.2 *	6.1 *	1.4 *
Other households	21.39*	29.4 *	23.6 *	21.8 *	12.9 *	5.7 *	3.1 *	3.3 *	0.2
Household size									
1	19.91	27.2	25.2	23.8	13.4	5.3	2.6	2.3	0.1
2	26.78*	23.0 *	22.9 *	23.7	14.5 *	6.5 *	3.8 *	4.9 *	0.6 *
3	30.56*	21.6 *	21.6 *	23.5	15.1 *	7.1 *	4.0 *	5.9 *	1.2 *
4+	33.69*	20.2 *	21.0 *	23.0 *	16.0 *	7.4 *	4.2 *	6.3 *	1.9 *
Race of household head									
White	27.70	20.8	22.7	25.0	15.6	6.7	3.6	4.7	0.8
African American	28.55*	26.6 *	21.9 *	21.0 *	13.7 *	6.5	3.7	5.3 *	1.3 *
Hispanic	27.91	20.7	23.4 *	24.4	15.4	6.6	3.8	4.8	0.9
Other	26.18*	19.8	24.9 *	26.1	15.5	5.8 *	3.1 *	3.9 *	0.9
Employment status									
Households with earnings	29.82	20.7	21.7	24.2	15.8	7.0	4.0	5.5	1.0
Households without earnings	26.98*	24.0 *	23.1 *	23.2 *	14.3 *	6.4 *	3.5 *	4.6 *	1.0
Receipt of TANF									
Yes	31.00	23.6	21.9	21.6	14.3	7.0	4.0	6.1	1.5
No	27.12*	22.8 *	22.8 *	23.9 *	14.9 *	6.5 *	3.6 *	4.6 *	0.9 *
Food stamp benefit									
\$10 or less	8.84	27.0	55.2	14.9	2.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0
\$11-100	19.16*	23.9 *	24.4 *	26.5 *	16.2 *	5.9 *	2.3 *	0.6 *	0.0
\$101-200	23.10*	26.4	23.5 *	23.1 *	13.4 *	6.0 *	3.5 *	4.0 *	0.1 *
\$201-300	29.34*	22.0 *	22.1 *	23.7 *	14.8 *	6.7 *	3.9 *	5.8 *	1.0 *
\$301 or more	33.94*	20.5 *	20.8 *	23.0 *	15.9 *	7.4 *	4.1 *	6.4 *	2.0 *
Minimum benefit	8.85	27.0	55.2	14.9	2.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0
Maximum benefit	27.25*	24.2 *	22.6 *	22.8 *	14.3 *	6.6 *	3.7 *	4.9 *	0.8 *
Months in certification period									
≤ 6 months	29.99	22.0	21.8	23.2	15.2	7.0	4.0	5.6	1.2
7-12 months	26.29*	23.6 *	23.3 *	23.7	14.5 *	6.3 *	3.4 *	4.4 *	0.8 *
>12 months	20.41*	26.4 *	25.6 *	24.2	13.7 *	5.2 *	2.5 *	2.1 *	0.3 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-2—Average EBT Purchase Amount, and Distribution of Transactions by Dollar Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Average purchase amount	Dollar amount of EBT purchase transactions							
		<\$5	\$5-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	\$51-75	\$76-100	\$101-200	>\$200
		<i>Percent of transactions</i>							
Geographic location									
Region									
Northeast	\$24.16	26.4%	26.2%	22.7%	11.5%	4.9%	2.9%	4.3%	0.9%
Mid Atlantic	27.86*	24.7	22.6 *	22.2	14.3 *	6.5 *	3.7 *	5.0 *	1.0
Midwest	29.78*	20.0 *	21.5 *	24.5 *	16.3 *	7.4 *	4.0 *	5.2 *	1.0
Southeast	28.65*	23.8	21.5 *	22.6	15.0 *	7.0 *	3.9 *	5.2 *	1.0
Southwest	28.43*	23.8 *	21.9 *	22.6	15.4 *	6.6 *	3.7 *	4.8	1.2
Mountain Plains	28.69*	20.5 *	22.5 *	24.8 *	15.7 *	6.9 *	3.7 *	4.8	1.0
West	25.58	23.4 *	23.9 *	24.8 *	14.0 *	5.9 *	3.2	4.1	0.8
Metro/Nonmetro areas									
Metropolitan	27.83	23.7	22.6	23.1	14.5	6.5	3.6	4.9	1.0
Nonmetro, micropolitan	28.12	20.8 *	22.3	24.6 *	16.1 *	6.9	3.7	4.7	0.8 *
Nonmetro, noncore	27.93	20.0 *	23.3	25.0 *	15.7 *	6.7	3.7	4.8	0.8 *
County with persistent poverty									
Yes	26.84	24.1	23.0	22.7	14.8	6.5	3.6	4.5	0.9
No	28.02*	22.8 *	22.6	23.6 *	14.8	6.6	3.7	4.9 *	1.0

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-3—Distribution of EBT Purchase Transactions by Store Type: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Distribution of EBT purchase transactions ¹						
	Supermarkets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Convenience	Gas/grocery	Specialty food	Other type
All households	65.1%	8.3%	9.3%	7.4%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	65.5	7.8	9.0	7.9	3.6	2.9	3.2
Households without children	64.1 *	9.2 *	10.0 *	6.3 *	2.6 *	4.2 *	3.5
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	65.2	7.3	9.3	8.6	3.8	2.8	3.1
Multiple-adult households	67.0	8.5	7.6 *	6.8 *	3.7	2.8	3.6
Children only	62.3	9.6 *	12.3	6.7	1.9 *	4.5 *	2.7
All households, by type							
With elderly	65.4	12.3	9.1	2.4	0.8	7.0	3.0
With disabled, nonelderly	63.6	8.5 *	10.1	7.8 *	3.4 *	3.1 *	3.4
With children, no elderly or disabled	66.2	7.5 *	8.7	8.0 *	3.6 *	2.8 *	3.2
Other households	62.2	7.7 *	10.8	8.9 *	3.9 *	2.6 *	3.8 *
Household size							
1	64.2	8.8	10.5	6.8	2.6	3.6	3.5
2	66.4	8.4	8.6 *	6.3	3.0	4.0	3.3
3	65.7	7.7 *	9.2	8.0 *	3.5 *	2.8 *	3.1
4+	64.7	8.1	8.8 *	8.3 *	4.0 *	3.0	3.3
Race of household head							
White	71.3	7.8	4.6	6.4	3.9	2.4	3.6
African American	60.3 *	8.1	12.9 *	8.6 *	3.0 *	3.8 *	3.3
Hispanic	63.5 *	8.5	12.7 *	7.9 *	2.1 *	3.1 *	2.3 *
Other	55.5 *	11.5 *	8.6 *	7.2	5.8 *	6.6 *	4.8 *
Employment status							
Households with earnings	68.9	8.0	7.0	7.2	2.8	2.9	3.2
Households without earnings	63.3 *	8.4	10.4 *	7.6	3.5 *	3.5 *	3.4
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	60.4	7.7	11.6	9.7	4.3	3.0	3.3
No	66.3 *	8.4	8.7 *	6.8 *	3.0 *	3.4 *	3.3
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	72.8	9.0	6.7	4.5	1.5	2.7	2.7
\$11-100	72.5	8.6	5.9	5.1	2.2	2.3	3.4
\$101-200	63.2 *	8.8	11.3 *	6.9 *	2.7 *	3.8	3.3
\$201-300	65.9 *	8.1	8.1	7.5 *	3.6 *	3.6	3.2
\$301 or more	63.6 *	7.9	9.6 *	8.6 *	3.9 *	3.1	3.4
Minimum benefit	72.8	9.1	6.6	4.5	1.5	2.7	2.8
Maximum benefit	62.6 *	8.4	10.8 *	7.4 *	3.5 *	3.8 *	3.5
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	66.5	7.6	8.6	7.9	3.7	2.8	3.0
7-12 months	63.8 *	8.8 *	10.0 *	7.0	3.1 *	3.8 *	3.5 *
>12 months	61.5 *	11.4 *	10.4	6.1 *	1.3 *	4.7	4.6 *

¹ Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms; 20 store types were collapsed into the 7 categories shown in the table. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

² Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

**Table A-3—Distribution of EBT Purchase Transactions by Store Type: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Distribution of EBT purchase transactions ¹						
	Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	47.6%	12.4%	23.6%	4.6%	1.2%	8.2%	2.5%
Mid Atlantic	59.1 *	6.4 *	15.8 *	6.9 *	3.4 *	4.4 *	4.1 *
Midwest	73.1 *	8.6 *	5.3 *	5.8 *	3.1 *	2.4 *	1.7 *
Southeast	61.2 *	8.5 *	10.0 *	7.6 *	4.1 *	2.4 *	6.2 *
Southwest	68.0 *	7.0 *	6.4 *	11.7 *	1.8	2.8 *	2.2
Mountain Plains	71.4 *	8.6 *	3.6 *	6.0 *	5.9 *	1.8 *	2.8
West	68.7 *	5.1 *	4.3 *	8.6 *	6.0 *	1.9 *	5.5 *
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	64.1	7.3	10.8	7.8	2.7	3.9	3.4
Nonmetro, micropolitan	70.6 *	8.7 *	4.3 *	6.9	4.7 *	2.0 *	2.8 *
Nonmetro, noncore	66.1	14.6 *	4.6 *	5.6 *	5.8 *	1.0 *	2.3 *
County with peristent poverty							
Yes	61.6	10.8	7.9	9.4	4.5	3.2	2.5
No	65.6 *	7.9 *	9.5 *	7.2 *	3.1 *	3.4	3.4 *

¹ Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms; 20 store types were collapsed into the 7 categories shown in the table. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-4—Distribution of EBT Benefit Redemption by Store Type: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Distribution of the dollar value of EBT redemption ¹						
	Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
All households	82.1%	6.1%	4.1%	1.8%	0.9%	2.4%	2.5%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	83.1	5.8	3.8	1.8	0.9	2.2	2.4
Households without children	78.7 *	7.3 *	5.2 *	2.0 *	0.8	2.8 *	3.1 *
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	84.0	5.2	3.7	1.9	0.9	2.2	2.1
Multiple-adult households	82.2 *	6.5 *	3.6	1.6	0.9	2.2	2.9 *
Children only	79.4 *	7.4 *	6.0 *	1.8	0.5 *	2.8	2.1
All households, by type							
With elderly	78.7	9.0	5.1	1.0	0.3	3.5	2.4
With disabled, nonelderly	80.3	6.7 *	4.7	2.0 *	1.0 *	2.7	2.6
With children, no elderly or disabled	83.6 *	5.6 *	3.7 *	1.8 *	0.8 *	2.2 *	2.4
Other households	78.7	6.2 *	5.2	2.8 *	1.2 *	2.4 *	3.7 *
Household size							
1	78.5	7.0	5.5	2.2	0.8	2.7	3.3
2	83.3 *	5.9 *	3.6 *	1.6 *	0.8	2.4	2.3 *
3	83.4 *	5.6 *	4.0 *	1.9	0.8	2.1 *	2.2 *
4+	82.7 *	6.1 *	3.7 *	1.8 *	0.9	2.4	2.5 *
Race of household head							
White	85.6	5.6	2.0	1.6	1.0	1.3	2.9
African American	80.2 *	5.9	5.3 *	2.1 *	0.7 *	3.4 *	2.4 *
Hispanic	81.5 *	6.6 *	5.8 *	2.0 *	0.6 *	2.1 *	1.5 *
Other	69.3 *	10.5 *	6.3 *	2.5 *	2.2 *	4.6 *	4.6 *
Employment status							
Households with earnings	84.0	6.0	3.1	1.6	0.7	2.1	2.4
Households without earnings	81.1 *	6.2	4.7 *	2.0 *	1.0 *	2.5 *	2.6
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	81.6	5.6	4.8	2.4	1.0	2.5	2.2
No	82.3	6.2 *	3.9 *	1.7 *	0.8 *	2.4	2.6 *
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	79.8	7.9	4.6	2.3	0.8	2.4	2.3
\$11-100	83.3	6.9	2.9	1.6	0.7	1.6	2.9
\$101-200	80.1	6.7	5.2	2.0	0.7	2.6	2.8
\$201-300	83.3	5.9 *	3.4	1.8	0.9	2.4	2.2
\$301 or more	82.4	5.8 *	4.1	1.8	0.9	2.4	2.5
Minimum benefit	79.8	8.0	4.5	2.2	0.8	2.4	2.3
Maximum benefit	81.0	5.9 *	5.0	1.8	1.0	2.4	2.8
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	83.5	5.6	3.6	1.9	0.9	2.1	2.4
7-12 months	80.9 *	6.6 *	4.7 *	1.8	0.8	2.7 *	2.5
>12 months	76.1 *	8.6 *	5.7 *	1.9	0.4 *	3.3 *	4.1 *

¹ Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms; 20 store types were collapsed into the 7 categories shown in the table. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

**Table A-4—Distribution of EBT Benefit Redemption by Store Type: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Distribution of the dollar value of EBT redemption ¹						
	Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	68.4%	9.7%	12.8%	1.8%	0.4%	5.0%	1.9%
Mid Atlantic	80.2 *	4.7 *	5.6 *	1.8	0.9 *	4.2	2.7 *
Midwest	85.7 *	6.6 *	2.4 *	1.4 *	0.8 *	1.9 *	1.2 *
Southeast	78.2 *	6.3 *	4.7 *	2.0	1.0 *	2.6 *	5.2 *
Southwest	86.8 *	4.9 *	2.2 *	2.5 *	0.5	1.7 *	1.5
Mountain Plains	85.6 *	6.2 *	1.6 *	1.4	1.4 *	1.3 *	2.4
West	85.0 *	3.6 *	2.0 *	2.1	1.7 *	1.1 *	4.5 *
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	82.0	5.3	4.7	1.9	0.6	2.8	2.6
Nonmetro, micropolitan	85.4 *	6.1	2.1 *	1.6	1.3 *	1.3 *	2.2
Nonmetro, noncore	80.4	11.5 *	2.3 *	1.4 *	1.8 *	0.8 *	1.8 *
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	81.5	7.9	3.2	2.4	1.4	2.0	1.5
No	82.3	5.8 *	4.2 *	1.8 *	0.8 *	2.4 *	2.6 *

¹ Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms; 20 store types were collapsed into the 7 categories shown in the table. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-5—Average Monthly Number of EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household, Total and By Store Type: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average monthly number of transactions per household							
	Total	By store type						
		Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
All households	7.6	4.9	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3
Household type								
With and without children								
Households with children	9.7	6.3	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.3
Households without children	5.2*	3.3*	0.5*	0.5*	0.4*	0.1*	0.2*	0.2*
Types of households with children								
Single-adult households	9.4	6.0	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.3
Multiple-adult households	10.8*	7.2*	0.9*	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4*
Children only	8.3*	5.1*	0.8	1.0	0.6*	0.2*	0.4	0.2
All households, by type								
With elderly	4.6	3.0	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1
With disabled, nonelderly	6.1*	3.8*	0.5	0.6*	0.5*	0.2*	0.2*	0.2*
With children, no elderly or disabled	10.0*	6.5*	0.8*	0.9*	0.8*	0.4*	0.3	0.3*
Other households	7.1*	4.4*	0.6	0.8*	0.7*	0.3*	0.2*	0.3*
Household size								
1	5.0	3.2	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2
2	7.3*	4.8*	0.6*	0.6*	0.5*	0.2*	0.3*	0.2*
3	9.5*	6.1*	0.7*	0.9*	0.8*	0.4*	0.3*	0.3*
4+	11.7*	7.5*	1.0*	1.0*	1.0*	0.5*	0.4*	0.4*
Race of household head								
White	6.9	4.9	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
African American	8.1*	4.8	0.7*	1.1*	0.7*	0.3	0.3*	0.3
Hispanic	8.2*	5.2*	0.7*	1.1*	0.7*	0.2*	0.3*	0.2*
Other	9.5*	5.2*	1.1*	0.8*	0.7*	0.6*	0.6*	0.4*
Employment status								
Households with earnings	8.6	5.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.3
Households without earnings	7.2*	4.5*	0.6*	0.8*	0.6*	0.3	0.3	0.2*
Receipt of TANF								
Yes	10.2	6.0	0.8	1.2	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.4
No	7.2*	4.7*	0.6*	0.6*	0.5*	0.2*	0.2*	0.2*
Food stamp benefit								
\$10 or less	1.6	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
\$11-100	3.5*	2.5*	0.3*	0.2*	0.2*	0.1*	0.1*	0.1*
\$101-200	7.0*	4.3*	0.6*	0.8*	0.5*	0.2*	0.3*	0.2*
\$201-300	9.4*	6.1*	0.8*	0.8*	0.7*	0.4*	0.3*	0.3*
\$301 or more	13.1*	8.2*	1.0*	1.3*	1.2*	0.5*	0.4*	0.4*
Minimum benefit	1.6	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maximum benefit	9.2*	5.7*	0.8*	1.0*	0.7*	0.3*	0.4*	0.3*
Months in certification period								
≤ 6 months	8.9	5.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.3
7-12 months	6.9*	4.4*	0.6	0.7	0.5*	0.2*	0.3	0.2
>12 months	4.7*	2.8*	0.6*	0.5*	0.3*	0.1*	0.2	0.2*

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

**Table A-5—Average Monthly Number of EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household, Total and By Store Type:
FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Average monthly number of transactions per household							
	Total	By store type						
		Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Geographic location								
Region								
Northeast	8.2	3.8	1.0	2.0	0.4	0.1	0.7	0.2
Mid Atlantic	7.1*	4.1	0.4*	1.2*	0.5*	0.2*	0.3*	0.3*
Midwest	6.9*	5.0*	0.6*	0.4*	0.4	0.2*	0.2*	0.1*
Southeast	7.5*	4.5*	0.6*	0.8*	0.6*	0.3*	0.2*	0.5*
Southwest	8.4	5.6*	0.6*	0.6*	1.0*	0.2	0.2*	0.2
Mountain Plains	7.2*	5.1*	0.6*	0.3*	0.5	0.4*	0.1*	0.2
West	8.6	5.8*	0.4*	0.4*	0.8*	0.5*	0.2*	0.5*
Metro/Nonmetro areas								
Metropolitan	7.8	4.9	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.3
Nonmetro, micropolitan	7.3*	5.1	0.6	0.3*	0.5*	0.4*	0.2*	0.2*
Nonmetro, noncore	7.0*	4.6*	1.0*	0.3*	0.4*	0.4*	0.1*	0.2*
County with persistent poverty								
Yes	8.2	4.9	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.2
No	7.6*	4.9	0.6*	0.7	0.6*	0.2*	0.2	0.3*

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-6—Average EBT Purchase Amount per Transaction, Overall and By Store Type: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average EBT purchase amount							
	Overall	By store type						
		Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
All households	\$27.90	\$35.45	\$19.48	\$11.65	\$6.04	\$6.28	\$19.05	\$19.46
Household type								
With and without children								
Households with children	31.53	40.29	22.04	12.73	6.20	6.58	23.37	21.20
Households without children	20.07*	24.75*	14.84*	9.57*	5.59*	5.39*	12.64*	16.05*
Types of households with children								
Single-adult households	31.65	41.07	21.20	11.70	6.03	6.37	23.66	19.48
Multiple-adult households	31.75	39.25*	23.62	14.74*	6.45	7.04	24.72	24.32
Children only	29.36*	37.74*	21.72	14.60	7.19	6.60	17.70*	20.81
All households, by type								
With elderly	19.16	23.10	13.52	10.15	6.74	7.20	9.32	14.08
With disabled, nonelderly	25.83*	32.75*	18.89*	10.97	5.70	6.05	20.93*	17.35*
With children, no elderly or disabled	31.85*	40.54*	22.49*	12.90*	6.19	6.61	23.36*	21.53*
Other households	21.39*	27.26*	15.97*	9.33	5.72	5.10*	18.02*	18.39*
Household size								
1	19.91	24.47	14.75	9.57	5.55	5.06	14.04	16.70
2	26.78*	33.87*	17.60*	10.43	5.85	6.57*	15.33	16.20
3	30.56*	38.93*	20.74*	12.83*	6.34	6.14*	21.93*	19.34
4+	33.69*	43.43*	24.32*	13.72*	6.28*	6.94*	25.48*	24.06*
Race of household head								
White	27.70	33.50	18.78	11.54	5.94	6.33	14.21	20.50
African American	28.55*	38.14*	19.37	10.95	5.87	5.53*	24.14*	18.22
Hispanic	27.91	36.31*	20.70	11.77	6.15	6.79	17.79	16.59*
Other	26.18*	33.08	23.44*	19.01*	8.15*	8.92*	17.54	24.43
Employment status								
Households with earnings	29.82	36.62	21.37	12.63	5.96	6.21	21.25	20.55
Households without earnings	26.98*	34.84*	18.62*	11.33	6.07	6.31	18.20*	18.97
Receipt of TANF								
Yes	31.00	42.17	21.18	11.98	6.39	6.36	24.29	18.00
No	27.12*	33.92*	19.09*	11.54	5.91*	6.26	17.90*	19.83
Food stamp benefit								
\$10 or less	8.84	9.75	7.31	5.56	4.22	4.15	[‡] 7.66	7.24
\$11-100	19.16*	22.06*	14.23*	8.16*	4.99	5.13	12.28*	14.85*
\$101-200	23.10*	29.45*	16.27*	9.62*	5.49*	5.09	14.40*	17.38*
\$201-300	29.34*	37.27*	20.18*	11.51*	6.10*	6.37*	18.83*	18.07*
\$301 or more	33.94*	44.37*	23.98*	14.42*	6.57*	7.10*	25.58*	23.66*
Minimum benefit	8.85	9.75	7.31	5.57	4.23	4.15	[‡] 7.66	7.24
Maximum benefit	27.25*	35.51*	18.23*	12.01*	5.95*	6.54*	16.95*	19.83*
Months in certification period								
≤ 6 months	29.99	37.98	21.03	11.67	6.20	6.53	21.57	21.30
7-12 months	26.29*	33.46*	18.80*	11.93	5.88	5.96	17.61*	17.32*
>12 months	20.41*	25.36*	14.19*	10.06	5.45	5.33	13.36*	16.54*

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

[‡] Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-6—Average EBT Purchase Amount per Transaction, Overall and By Store Type: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Average EBT purchase amount							
	Overall	By store type						
		Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Geographic location								
Region								
Northeast	\$24.16	\$35.00	\$17.95	\$12.59	\$8.22	\$6.08	\$14.27	\$16.24
Mid Atlantic	27.86*	38.14*	19.08	8.88*	6.09*	6.02	25.80*	16.30
Midwest	29.78*	35.14	21.74*	12.65	6.09*	7.17	21.70*	20.23
Southeast	28.65*	36.62	19.57	12.98	6.95	5.41	30.39*	21.38*
Southwest	28.43*	36.67	18.45	8.96*	5.14*	6.41	15.76	17.89
Mountain Plains	28.69*	34.66	19.85	11.94	5.92*	6.02	18.48*	22.23*
West	25.58	31.93*	17.23	11.16	5.41*	6.35	13.85	19.27
Metro/Nonmetro areas								
Metropolitan	27.83	35.81	19.00	11.45	6.01	5.55	19.15	18.85
Nonmetro, micropolitan	28.12	34.37*	18.84	12.81	5.84	6.96*	17.57	21.12
Nonmetro, noncore	27.93	34.36*	21.25*	12.75	6.41	7.75*	20.00	19.55
County with peristent poverty								
Yes	26.84	36.00	18.62	10.10	6.05	7.50	15.18	15.11
No	28.02*	35.39	19.53	11.76*	6.02	5.95*	19.57*	19.56*

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-7—Average Number of Stores Accessed Per Household Per Month, and Distribution of Households by Number of Stores: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Avg monthly number of stores per household	Number of stores per household per month					
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six or more
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
All households	3.3	18.7%	23.3%	19.7%	14.5%	9.5%	14.2%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	4.0	6.9	18.0	21.0	19.1	13.6	21.4
Households without children	2.5*	32.4 *	29.5 *	18.1 *	9.3 *	4.8 *	6.0 *
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	4.1	6.9	17.4	21.3	18.6	14.0	22.0
Multiple-adult households	4.1	6.0	17.6	20.8	20.7	13.3	21.6
Children only	3.6*	9.6	24.8 *	19.9	18.0	11.8	15.8 *
All households, by type							
With elderly	2.2	44.0	28.3	13.6	6.1	2.8	5.1
With disabled, nonelderly	2.8*	25.6 *	27.6	19.3 *	11.7 *	6.6 *	9.2 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	4.1*	6.1 *	17.2 *	20.9 *	19.3 *	14.0 *	22.4 *
Other households	3.2*	11.6 *	27.9	24.8 *	16.0 *	9.7 *	9.9 *
Household size							
1	2.5	32.7	30.0	18.0	9.2	4.6	5.6
2	3.4*	15.0 *	24.2 *	22.0 *	16.1 *	10.2 *	12.4 *
3	4.0*	6.4 *	17.7 *	22.1 *	19.7 *	14.1 *	20.0 *
4+	4.6*	4.0 *	13.6 *	19.0	19.6 *	15.1 *	28.8 *
Race of household head							
White	2.9	24.5	27.1	19.9	12.8	7.3	8.4
African American	3.8*	12.6 *	19.3 *	19.6	16.2 *	12.1 *	20.1 *
Hispanic	3.5*	15.8 *	22.2 *	19.4	16.0 *	10.2 *	16.3 *
Other	4.0*	14.2 *	18.8 *	19.0	14.8	10.3 *	22.8 *
Employment status							
Households with earnings	3.6	11.0	21.9	22.5	17.6	11.4	15.7
Households without earnings	3.2*	21.8 *	23.9 *	18.6 *	13.3 *	8.8 *	13.7 *
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	4.3	5.7	15.5	19.4	18.9	14.9	25.6
No	3.2*	21.0 *	24.7 *	19.7	13.8 *	8.6 *	12.2 *
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	1.2	79.9	17.2	2.2	0.6	0.0	0.0
\$11-100	2.0*	40.1 *	35.5 *	15.9 *	5.2 *	1.7 *	1.6 *
\$101-200	3.2*	12.2 *	28.1 *	25.7 *	16.1 *	8.8 *	9.2 *
\$201-300	4.0*	4.3 *	17.5	23.4 *	21.3 *	14.9 *	18.7 *
\$301 or more	5.0*	2.0 *	8.9 *	16.2 *	20.3 *	17.1 *	35.5 *
Minimum benefit	1.2	79.8	17.3	2.2	0.6	0.0	0.0
Maximum benefit	3.9*	8.4 *	20.8 *	21.9 *	17.7 *	12.3 *	18.9 *
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	3.8	8.9	21.1	22.0	17.8	12.0	18.2
7-12 months	3.1*	24.7 *	23.7 *	18.5 *	13.1 *	8.1 *	12.0 *
>12 months	2.4*	36.9 *	31.7 *	14.6 *	6.4 *	4.2 *	6.2 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-7—Average Number of Stores Accessed Per Household Per Month, and Distribution of Households by Number of Stores: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Avg monthly number of stores per household	Number of stores per household per month					
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six or more
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	3.6	20.5%	21.5%	17.9%	14.2%	8.4%	17.3%
Mid Atlantic	3.2*	23.0	22.9	19.6	13.4	8.3	12.8 *
Midwest	3.1*	20.1	24.0	20.2	15.2	9.4	11.1 *
Southeast	3.4	17.4 *	24.5	19.6	14.0	9.9	14.8
Southwest	3.6	15.3 *	22.8	19.8	13.9	11.0 *	17.2
Mountain Plains	3.1*	21.4	25.2 *	20.4	14.2	7.2	11.6 *
West	3.6	15.1 *	21.4	20.1	16.3	10.5	16.5
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	3.5	17.4	22.1	19.2	15.0	10.0	16.3
Nonmetro, micropolitan	3.0*	21.2 *	25.5 *	21.0	13.9	9.0	9.4 *
Nonmetro, noncore	2.7*	24.4 *	28.4 *	20.9	12.6 *	7.0 *	6.6 *
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	3.5	16.5	22.7	19.9	14.1	10.4	16.4
No	3.3*	19.0 *	23.4	19.6	14.6	9.4	14.0 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-8—Percent of Households Shopping Exclusively at Different Store Types: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Percent of households shopping exclusively at			Percent never shopping at supermarkets
	Supermarkets	Grocery stores ¹	Convenience stores	
All households	46.9%	2.8%	0.3%	5.4%
Household type				
With and without children				
Households with children	38.4	1.3	0.1	2.4
Households without children	56.8 *	4.6 *	0.5 *	8.8 *
Types of households with children				
Single-adult households	38.8	1.2	0.1	2.2
Multiple-adult households	37.6	1.2	0.1	2.4
Children only	38.1	2.3	0.0	3.9
All households, by type				
With elderly	65.7	5.6	0.3	8.8
With disabled, nonelderly	49.8 *	3.9 *	0.6	7.5
With children, no elderly or disabled	38.3 *	1.0 *	0.1 *	2.1 *
Other households	43.3 *	2.8 *	0.4	7.0 *
Household size				
1	56.9	4.6	0.6	8.9
2	47.4 *	2.5 *	0.2 *	4.2 *
3	38.8 *	1.3 *	0.2 *	2.3 *
4+	33.0 *	0.9 *	0.1 *	1.8 *
Race of household head				
White	58.0	2.5	0.3	4.9
African American	36.3 *	2.8	0.3	5.9 *
Hispanic	41.6 *	3.3	0.3	4.8
Other	31.4 *	5.2 *	0.1 *	8.1 *
Employment status				
Households with earnings	44.5	1.7	0.2	3.5
Households without earnings	47.9 *	3.3 *	0.4 *	6.1 *
Receipt of TANF				
Yes	32.0	1.2	0.1	2.5
No	49.6 *	3.1 *	0.3 *	5.9 *
Food stamp benefit				
\$10 or less	75.0	9.6	1.7	16.8
\$11-100	65.6 *	5.0 *	0.6 *	9.0 *
\$101-200	45.6 *	2.7 *	0.2 *	5.4 *
\$201-300	38.3 *	0.9 *	0.1 *	2.0 *
\$301 or more	28.5 *	0.5 *	0.0	1.4 *
Minimum benefit	75.0	9.6	1.7	16.8
Maximum benefit	38.6 *	2.0 *	0.2 *	4.8 *
Months in certification period				
≤ 6 months	41.4	1.5	0.2	3.4
7-12 months	50.2 *	3.4 *	0.3	6.2 *
>12 months	57.7 *	6.0 *	0.6	10.3 *

¹ Grocery stores include large groceries and small/medium grocery stores

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

ˆ Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as monthly statistics for the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-8—Percent of Households Shopping Exclusively at Different Store Types: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Percent of households shopping exclusively at			Percent never shopping at supermarkets
	Supermarkets	Grocery stores ¹	Convenience stores	
Geographic location				
Region				
Northeast	35.9%	5.0%	0.3%	10.2%
Mid Atlantic	47.4 *	3.5	› 0.2	6.4 *
Midwest	52.5 *	2.6 *	0.2	4.6 *
Southeast	45.8 *	2.8 *	0.6	6.0 *
Southwest	43.6 *	2.0 *	› 0.2	3.3 *
Mountain Plains	52.6 *	3.3 *	0.4	5.4 *
West	48.0 *	1.1 *	0.3	2.9 *
Metro/Nonmetro areas				
Metropolitan	46.1	2.5	0.4	5.2
Nonmetro, micropolitan	51.1 *	2.6	› 0.2	4.4
Nonmetro, noncore	47.4	5.3 *	› 0.2	7.7 *
County with persistent poverty				
Yes	37.7	3.8	› 0.3	6.2
No	48.1 *	2.7 *	0.3	5.2 *

¹ Grocery stores include large groceries and small/medium grocery stores

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

› Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as monthly statistics for the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-9—Distribution of Households By Percent of Redemption at Supermarkets: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Percent of benefits redeemed at supermarkets					
	Zero	1-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-99%	100%
	<i>Percent of households</i>					
All households	5.4%	2.9%	5.1%	10.5%	28.7%	46.9%
Household type						
With and without children						
Households with children	2.4	2.6	5.4	12.3	38.2	38.4
Households without children	8.8 *	3.4 *	4.8 *	8.4 *	17.7 *	56.8 *
Types of households with children						
Single-adult households	2.2	2.3	5.4	12.0	38.6	38.8
Multiple-adult households	2.4	2.7	5.2	12.6	38.9	37.6
Children only	3.9	4.2	7.0	13.8	32.4 *	38.1
All households, by type						
With elderly	8.8	2.9	4.2	6.6	11.6	65.7
With disabled, nonelderly	7.5	3.3	4.9	10.7 *	23.6 *	49.8 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	2.1 *	2.4	5.4 *	11.8 *	39.2 *	38.3 *
Other households	7.0 *	4.0	5.8 *	11.4 *	28.2 *	43.3 *
Household size						
1	8.9	3.3	4.8	8.6	17.4	56.9
2	4.2 *	3.0	4.9	10.2 *	29.9 *	47.4 *
3	2.3 *	2.5	5.9	11.9 *	38.1 *	38.8 *
4+	1.8 *	2.5 *	5.5	13.5 *	42.9 *	33.0 *
Race of household head						
White	4.9	2.3	3.5	7.9	23.2	58.0
African American	5.9 *	3.4 *	6.6 *	12.8 *	34.4 *	36.3 *
Hispanic	4.8	2.7	5.3 *	12.5 *	32.9 *	41.6 *
Other	8.1 *	6.7 *	11.7 *	13.6 *	28.3 *	31.4 *
Employment status						
Households with earnings	3.5	2.3	4.9	11.1	33.2	44.5
Households without earnings	6.1 *	3.2 *	5.2	10.3	26.9 *	47.9 *
Receipt of TANF						
Yes	2.5	2.9	6.2	14.1	41.6	32.0
No	5.9 *	2.9	5.0 *	9.9 *	26.4 *	49.6 *
Food stamp benefit						
\$10 or less	16.8	1.2	2.1	3.4	1.5	75.0
\$11-100	9.0 *	2.2 *	3.4 *	6.7 *	13.2 *	65.6 *
\$101-200	5.4 *	4.0 *	5.9 *	11.3 *	27.5 *	45.6 *
\$201-300	2.0 *	2.8 *	6.3 *	12.4 *	37.6 *	38.3 *
\$301 or more	1.4 *	2.7 *	5.8 *	13.8 *	46.9 *	28.5 *
Minimum benefit	16.8	1.2	2.1	3.4	1.5	75.0
Maximum benefit	4.8 *	4.2 *	6.4 *	11.4 *	34.2 *	38.6 *
Months in certification period						
≤ 6 months	3.4	2.4	5.1	11.6	35.5	41.4
7-12 months	6.2 *	3.3 *	5.2	9.8 *	24.9 *	50.2 *
>12 months	10.3 *	3.5	5.0	8.4 *	14.9 *	57.7 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as monthly statistics for the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-9—Distribution of Households By Percent of Redemption at Supermarkets: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Percent of benefits redeemed at supermarkets					
	Zero	1-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-99%	100%
<i>Percent of households</i>						
Geographic location						
Region						
Northeast	10.2%	6.9%	9.5%	14.5%	23.0%	35.9%
Mid Atlantic	6.4 *	3.0 *	5.8 *	12.4	24.8	47.4 *
Midwest	4.6 *	2.2 *	4.1 *	9.3 *	26.6 *	52.5 *
Southeast	6.0 *	3.6 *	6.0 *	10.1 *	28.2 *	45.8 *
Southwest	3.3 *	1.4 *	3.8 *	10.7 *	36.6 *	43.6 *
Mountain Plains	5.4 *	2.1 *	4.5 *	8.1 *	26.9 *	52.6 *
West	2.9 *	2.1 *	3.4 *	9.5 *	33.8 *	48.0 *
Metro/Nonmetro areas						
Metropolitan	5.2	3.2	5.2	10.5	29.4	46.1
Nonmetro, micropolitan	4.4	1.7 *	4.2	9.8	28.6	51.1 *
Nonmetro, noncore	7.7 *	3.0	5.6	11.1	25.1 *	47.4
County with persistent poverty						
Yes	6.2	2.4	5.0	12.7	35.8	37.7
No	5.2 *	3.0 *	5.2	10.2 *	27.9 *	48.1 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as monthly statistics for the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-10—Total Monthly EBT Redemption Per Household, and Distribution of Households by Total Monthly Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Monthly household redemption	Total monthly EBT redemption ¹					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
All households	\$195	8.0%	7.5%	13.6%	30.7%	18.3%	21.9%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	282	1.3	1.5	5.3	21.5	30.3	40.1
Households without children	96*	15.8 *	14.5 *	23.2 *	41.3 *	4.4 *	0.8 *
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	272	1.6	1.6	5.6	20.7	33.0	37.5
Multiple-adult households	321*	0.7 *	1.2	4.3 *	18.6	23.8 *	51.4 *
Children only	227*	0.6 *	1.5	5.9	39.1 *	30.3	22.6 *
All households, by type							
With elderly	82	21.6	21.0	24.8	26.6	4.6	1.5
With disabled, nonelderly	142*	13.5 *	12.0 *	22.2 *	29.1 *	11.3 *	11.8 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	293*	0.8 *	1.0 *	4.1 *	19.4 *	31.7 *	43.0 *
Other households	138*	2.4 *	1.8 *	12.8 *	74.2 *	7.3 *	1.6
Household size							
1	91	16.1	14.2	23.6	44.0	1.6	0.5
2	179*	5.1 *	5.5 *	11.2 *	30.9 *	42.9 *	4.3 *
3	264*	0.7 *	1.3 *	5.0 *	19.9 *	30.6 *	42.4 *
4+	365*	0.4 *	0.9 *	2.5 *	12.5 *	18.5 *	65.2 *
Race of household head							
White	177	10.1	8.3	15.8	30.1	17.3	18.4
African American	209*	7.3 *	6.6 *	11.6 *	30.6	19.2 *	24.7 *
Hispanic	213*	4.4 *	7.5	11.3 *	31.8	19.3 *	25.5 *
Other	231*	4.0 *	5.7 *	13.6	31.5	18.5	26.8 *
Employment status							
Households with earnings	237	3.3	2.8	9.3	30.7	25.5	28.5
Households without earnings	179*	9.9 *	9.4 *	15.3 *	30.7	15.4 *	19.2 *
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	288	1.1	1.3	4.6	19.2	31.4	42.4
No	179*	9.2 *	8.6 *	15.2 *	32.7 *	16.0 *	18.3 *
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	14	94.1	4.0	1.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
\$11-100	61*	13.5 *	29.8 *	49.3 *	6.6 *	0.6 *	0.3 *
\$101-200	146*	0.2 *	0.1 *	4.7 *	89.2 *	5.0 *	0.8 *
\$201-300	252*	0.1 *	0.0	0.1 *	7.3 *	84.0 *	8.4 *
\$301 or more	414*	0.2 *	0.0	0.0	0.5	5.4 *	93.9 *
Minimum benefit	14	94.1	4.0	1.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
Maximum benefit	231*	0.2 *	0.1 *	2.6 *	52.8 *	20.8 *	23.5 *
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	246	2.1	1.7	7.6	33.3	24.4	30.8
7-12 months	168*	12.0 *	9.9 *	16.5 *	29.5 *	15.1 *	17.0 *
>12 months	87*	17.7 *	23.0 *	27.6 *	24.3 *	4.5 *	3.0 *

¹ Household monthly redemption is measured by EBT purchases. Redemption may be greater than (less than) benefit amount if benefits were carried over in prior months (this month).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

**Table A-10—Total Monthly EBT Redemption Per Household, and Distribution of Households by Total Monthly Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Monthly household redemption	Total monthly EBT redemption ¹					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	\$181	8.8%	5.2%	10.1%	42.0%	16.9%	17.0%
Mid Atlantic	179	11.0 *	7.9 *	14.6 *	30.4 *	17.8	18.4
Midwest	190	8.8	9.6 *	14.4 *	27.6 *	18.4	21.2 *
Southeast	196*	7.8	6.0	14.4 *	32.1 *	18.0	21.6 *
Southwest	220*	5.9 *	8.6 *	12.8 *	24.5 *	19.5	28.7 *
Mountain Plains	192*	9.9	7.9 *	13.7 *	28.4 *	17.6	22.6 *
West	202*	5.0 *	4.4	14.9 *	35.4 *	19.0	21.2 *
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	198	7.4	7.0	13.3	31.9	18.3	22.2
Nonmetro, micropolitan	191*	9.6 *	8.8 *	13.5	27.4 *	18.8	21.9
Nonmetro, noncore	181*	10.9 *	10.0 *	14.3	26.9 *	18.1	19.8 *
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	202	8.0	9.9	12.7	26.8	17.8	24.8
No	195*	8.1	7.2 *	13.5	31.2 *	18.4	21.6 *

¹ Household monthly redemption is measured by EBT purchases. Redemption may be greater than (less than) benefit amount if benefits were carried over in prior months (this month).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-11—Average Number of EBT Transactions Per Month, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average number of EBT purchase transactions						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
All households	7.6	1.7	2.7	4.2	6.9	9.4	13.2
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	9.7	› 1.7	› 2.6	3.9	6.3	9.2	13.2
Households without children	5.2*	1.7	2.7	4.2*	7.3*	10.6*	12.0*
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	9.4	› 1.7	› 2.6	3.9	6.4	9.2	12.7
Multiple-adult households	10.8*	› 2.0	› 2.6	› 3.8	6.1	9.2	14.2*
Children only	8.3*	› 1.7	› 2.4	› 4.1	5.9	9.2	12.8
All households, by type							
With elderly	4.6	1.5	2.6	4.0	7.4	12.5	13.4
With disabled, nonelderly	6.1*	1.8*	2.8*	4.2	6.5*	9.4*	13.6
With children, no elderly or disabled	10.0*	› 1.5	› 2.6	3.9	6.2*	9.2*	13.2
Other households	7.1*	› 1.9*	› 2.8	4.9*	7.5	9.6*	› 11.6
Household size							
1	5.0	1.7	2.7	4.3	7.2	9.5	› 11.8
2	7.3*	› 1.7	› 2.7	4.0*	6.8	9.5	11.2
3	9.5*	› 1.7	› 2.5	3.7*	6.3*	9.5	12.0
4+	11.7*	› 1.9	› 2.8	› 3.7*	6.1*	9.1	14.0*
Race of household head							
White	6.9	1.6	2.6	4.1	6.7	9.0	12.5
African American	8.1*	1.8*	2.9*	4.4*	7.2*	9.6*	13.1*
Hispanic	8.2*	› 1.6	› 2.5	4.0	6.4	9.4	14.4*
Other	9.5*	› 2.0	› 2.9	› 4.2	7.7*	10.9*	15.7*
Employment status							
Households with earnings	8.6	› 1.7	› 2.5	4.0	6.4	9.2	13.3
Households without earnings	7.2*	1.7	2.7	4.2	7.1*	9.5	13.2
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	10.2	› 1.8	› 2.6	4.3	6.6	9.4	13.5
No	7.2*	1.7	2.7	4.2	6.9*	9.4	13.1
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	1.6	1.5	› 2.0	—	—	—	—
\$11-100	3.5*	1.9*	2.7*	4.1	5.6	› 7.8	—
\$101-200	7.0*	—	—	4.8*	7.0	9.0	› 11.1
\$201-300	9.4*	—	—	—	6.7	9.5	11.2
\$301 or more	13.1*	—	—	—	› 7.1	9.0	13.4
Minimum benefit	1.6	1.5	› 2.0	› 3.1	› 8.0	—	—
Maximum benefit	9.2*	› 1.3	› 3.4	› 5.1*	7.4	9.8	13.3
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	8.9	› 1.7	› 2.6	4.2	6.8	9.2	13.1
7-12 months	6.9*	1.6	2.7	4.1	7.0	9.7	13.4
>12 months	4.7*	1.8	2.8	4.1	7.2	› 10.8	13.3

— Cell contains fewer than 30 households (see Tables 7 and A-10).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

› Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-11—Average Number of EBT Transactions Per Month, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Average number of EBT purchase transactions						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	8.2	› 1.6	› 2.5	4.2	8.0	10.8	13.8
Mid Atlantic	7.1*	› 1.6	› 2.7	4.0	6.7*	9.2*	13.1
Midwest	6.9*	› 1.6	› 2.6	3.9	6.2*	8.9*	12.3*
Southeast	7.5*	› 1.8	› 2.9	4.1	6.5*	9.1*	13.3
Southwest	8.4	› 1.9*	› 2.7	4.2	7.1*	9.5	13.8
Mountain Plains	7.2*	› 1.7	› 2.7	4.0	6.6*	9.1*	12.6
West	8.6	› 1.7	› 2.7	5.0*	7.5	9.9	14.6
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	7.8	1.7	2.7	4.2	7.0	9.5	13.2
Nonmetro, micropolitan	7.3*	› 1.6	› 2.6	4.2	6.4*	9.2	13.1
Nonmetro, noncore	7.0*	› 1.6	› 2.7	4.0	6.4*	9.1	13.2
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	8.2	› 1.6	› 2.8	4.3	7.0	9.9	14.4
No	7.6*	1.7	2.7	4.1	6.9	9.3*	13.0*

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

› Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-12—Average Purchase Amount Per Transaction, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average purchase amount						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
All households	\$27.90	\$8.62	\$15.40	\$20.05	\$22.98	\$29.10	\$34.08
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	31.53	8.18	16.55	22.39	27.42	29.77	34.06
Households without children	20.07*	8.67	15.27	19.48*	20.68*	24.48*	35.54
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	31.65	8.43	16.60	22.43	27.17	29.87	34.72
Multiple-adult households	31.75	› 7.25	› 16.37	22.87	28.16	29.89	33.19*
Children only	29.36*	› 7.03	› 16.65	20.94	27.34	28.56	32.70
All households, by type							
With elderly	19.16	9.31	15.83	20.04	19.64	20.44	31.90
With disabled, nonelderly	25.83*	8.10*	14.85	20.34	24.12*	29.28*	33.83
With children, no elderly or disabled	31.85*	8.44	16.14	21.89	27.62*	29.94*	34.14
Other households	21.39*	7.22*	14.49	17.87*	20.76	27.21*	36.15
Household size							
1	19.91	8.72	15.12	19.43	20.96	25.98	39.53
2	26.78*	8.15	16.52	20.96	24.82*	28.39	33.67
3	30.56*	› 8.76	16.79	22.64*	27.63*	29.35	32.42*
4+	33.69*	› 7.11*	16.13	25.11*	28.88*	30.96*	34.76
Race of household head							
White	27.70	9.16	15.59	20.19	23.05	30.04	34.71
African American	28.55*	7.91*	14.71	19.42	22.59	29.03	35.42
Hispanic	27.91	8.53	16.74	21.42	25.31*	28.64	30.74*
Other	26.18*	7.26	14.31	19.03	20.71*	24.65*	31.86*
Employment status							
Households with earnings	29.82	8.38	16.35	21.02	25.67	29.56	33.58
Households without earnings	26.98*	8.65	15.29	19.83*	22.01*	28.80	34.39
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	31.00	7.90	17.04	21.10	26.30	29.27	33.43
No	27.12*	8.64	15.35	19.99	22.65*	29.03	34.36
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	8.84	7.75	16.89	—	—	—	—
\$11-100	19.16*	9.66*	15.34	20.23	24.88	32.13	—
\$101-200	23.10*	—	—	18.73	22.72	28.00	37.41
\$201-300	29.34*	—	—	—	26.56	29.04	33.37
\$301 or more	33.94*	—	—	—	› 24.66	30.99	34.08
Minimum benefit	8.85	7.75	16.89	› 21.96	› 20.07	—	—
Maximum benefit	27.25*	› 6.07	› 12.26	17.44	21.09	28.12	34.83
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	29.99	8.30	16.08	20.19	23.94	29.91	34.53
7-12 months	26.29*	8.76	15.47	20.05	22.37*	28.22	33.24
>12 months	20.41*	8.46	15.08	20.03	20.46*	25.01	33.81

— Cell contains fewer than 30 households (see Tables 7 and A-10).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

› Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

**Table A-12—Average Purchase Amount Per Transaction, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption:
FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Average purchase amount						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	\$24.16	\$8.74	\$15.41	\$20.27	\$19.43	\$25.66	\$31.96
Mid Atlantic	27.86*	9.21	15.02	21.41	23.69*	29.95*	34.04
Midwest	29.78*	9.12	15.99	21.19	25.44*	30.48*	36.52*
Southeast	28.65*	7.97	13.78	20.38	24.56*	30.21*	34.36
Southwest	28.43*	7.77	15.83	19.22	23.13*	29.05	33.04
Mountain Plains	28.69*	8.91	15.43	20.12	23.89*	29.56*	35.16
West	25.58	8.43	14.78	17.04*	21.01	27.45	31.31
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	27.83	8.47	15.43	20.22	22.52	28.95	34.26
Nonmetro, micropolitan	28.12	8.83	15.41	19.63	24.66*	29.24	33.33
Nonmetro, noncore	27.93	9.15	15.20	20.38	24.94*	29.74	32.96
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	26.84	8.49	15.22	19.48	23.36	27.41	31.07
No	28.02*	8.64	15.42	20.24	22.94	29.29*	34.47*

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-13—Average Percent of Benefits Redeemed At Supermarkets, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average percent of benefits redeemed at supermarkets						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
All households	82.1%	79.2%	82.8%	82.7%	80.5%	83.4%	82.3%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	83.1	74.6	80.2	83.9	84.6	84.1	82.4
Households without children	78.7 *	79.6	83.1	82.4	77.7 *	77.0 *	73.6 *
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	84.0	73.0	81.7	84.7	85.2	84.7	83.3
Multiple-adult households	82.2 *	80.7	78.3	83.2	84.8	83.5	81.6
Children only	79.4 *	83.7	72.0	79.6	80.8 *	80.3	77.8 *
All households, by type							
With elderly	78.7	83.2	85.4	83.6	76.7	70.4	80.0
With disabled, nonelderly	80.3	75.1 *	78.8 *	82.3	81.2 *	81.0 *	78.8
With children, no elderly or disabled	83.6 *	76.1	85.4	84.3	84.9 *	84.7 *	82.9
Other households	78.6	73.9	84.3	80.0	77.8	82.6 *	78.8
Household size							
1	78.5	79.8	83.2	82.2	77.5	75.2	69.2
2	83.3 *	76.1	82.6	83.0	84.3 *	83.4 *	80.1
3	83.4 *	68.6	74.8	84.8	85.2 *	83.3 *	83.1
4+	82.7 *	78.5	81.9	86.2	84.4 *	84.6 *	82.2
Race of household head							
White	85.6	83.4	84.4	85.7	85.2	85.8	85.8
African American	80.2 *	73.4 *	80.0 *	78.2 *	76.1 *	81.6 *	81.5 *
Hispanic	81.5 *	73.9 *	86.3	84.1	80.6 *	83.1 *	80.9 *
Other	69.3 *	61.6 *	67.9	70.6 *	69.9 *	73.8 *	67.3 *
Employment status							
Households with earnings	84.0	73.6	81.4	83.2	85.0	85.4	83.1
Households without earnings	81.1 *	79.9 *	83.0	82.6	78.6 *	82.0 *	81.8
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	81.6	72.5	72.7	83.3	79.8	82.5	81.4
No	82.3	79.3	83.1 *	82.6	80.6	83.6	82.6
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	79.8	78.6	89.9	—	—	—	—
\$11-100	83.4	79.8	82.6	82.9	85.6	87.9	—
\$101-200	80.1	—	—	81.5	80.0	81.0	80.0
\$201-300	83.3	—	—	—	84.8	83.4	81.8
\$301 or more	82.4	—	—	—	78.8	84.7	82.3
Minimum benefit	79.8	78.6	89.9	75.0	87.9	—	—
Maximum benefit	81.0	71.9	80.6	78.1	76.8 *	82.3	83.6
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	83.5	79.2	81.5	82.0	82.5	85.3	83.2
7-12 months	80.9 *	80.8	84.2	83.6	79.4 *	81.0 *	81.1 *
>12 months	76.1 *	75.1	80.9	81.3	73.6 *	71.0 *	75.5

— Cell contains fewer than 30 households (see Tables 7 and A-10).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

‡ Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-13—Average Percent of Benefits Redeemed At Supermarkets, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Average percent of benefits redeemed at supermarkets						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	68.4%	71.7%	73.6%	79.1%	67.1%	72.1%	66.0%
Mid Atlantic	80.2 *	78.7	82.0	80.4	78.7 *	81.1 *	80.4 *
Midwest	85.7 *	82.6 *	83.9 *	84.0	85.7 *	85.9 *	85.9 *
Southeast	78.2 *	77.9	80.7	80.3	78.0 *	79.4 *	77.3 *
Southwest	86.8 *	78.8	86.6 *	83.9	85.4 *	88.0 *	87.0 *
Mountain Plains	85.6 *	79.3	81.3	85.4	85.0 *	86.2 *	85.9 *
West	85.0 *	83.5 *	84.5 *	84.3	85.3 *	86.8 *	83.9 *
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	82.0	79.4	83.5	83.2	79.6	83.2	82.4
Nonmetro, micropolitan	85.4 *	81.9	85.8	84.4	85.8 *	85.9 *	85.0 *
Nonmetro, noncore	80.4	75.5	77.1 *	78.1 *	80.7	81.3	80.3
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	81.6	74.1	79.9	77.5	81.5	82.7	81.6
No	82.3	79.8 *	83.4	83.4 *	80.4	83.4	82.6

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-14—Percent of Households with No Supermarket Redemption, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Percent of households with no supermarket redemption						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
All households	5.4%	17.0%	10.4%	7.2%	5.1%	2.1%	1.3%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	2.4	19.2	10.0	6.2	3.2	1.6	1.3
Households without children	8.8 *	16.8	10.4	7.4	6.3 *	5.5 *	4.2 *
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	2.2	20.0	7.4	5.3	2.5	1.6	1.2
Multiple-adult households	2.4	16.4	14.7	6.6	3.7	1.9	1.4
Children only	3.9	14.8	19.1	11.9	5.2	1.7	1.2
All households, by type							
With elderly	8.8	14.2	8.8	6.6	6.9	8.4	4.0
With disabled, nonelderly	7.5	19.4 *	13.0 *	7.2	4.6	1.2 *	1.8
With children, no elderly or disabled	2.1 *	22.0	6.2	6.7	2.9 *	1.7 *	1.2
Other households	7.0 *	22.5	10.0	9.0	6.4	4.0	6.1
Household size							
1	8.9	16.6	10.2	7.6	6.4	9.9	4.2
2	4.2 *	17.8	11.1	6.2	3.2 *	2.1 *	3.2
3	2.3 *	26.0	11.2	6.8	3.2 *	1.6 *	1.1
4+	1.8 *	24.8	9.6	3.6 *	3.4 *	1.4 *	1.2
Race of household head							
White	4.9	13.3	10.1	6.0	3.8	2.2	1.2
African American	5.9 *	21.6 *	10.5	8.5	6.8 *	2.0	0.8
Hispanic	4.8	22.8 *	8.1	6.3	5.2	1.6	1.9
Other	8.1 *	28.6	25.4	12.6	6.1	3.7	4.6 *
Employment status							
Households with earnings	3.5	23.8	10.7	7.0	3.6	1.4	1.0
Households without earnings	6.1 *	16.1 *	10.3	7.2	5.7 *	2.6 *	1.5
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	2.5	12.2	16.8	4.6	4.4	2.0	1.1
No	5.9 *	17.1	10.2	7.3 *	5.2	2.1	1.4
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	16.8	17.4	3.0	—	—	—	—
\$11-100	9.0 *	16.2	10.5 *	6.9	3.1 *	3.0	—
\$101-200	5.4 *	—	—	8.2	5.3 *	5.1	1.9
\$201-300	2.0 *	—	—	—	4.5 *	1.8	1.7
\$301 or more	1.4 *	—	—	—	6.0	1.8	1.3
Minimum benefit	16.8	17.4	3.0	22.8	0.0	—	—
Maximum benefit	4.8 *	36.8	0.0	12.1	6.9 *	2.8	1.0
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	3.4	17.7	11.3	7.6	4.5	1.5	1.2
7-12 months	6.2 *	15.6	8.7	6.9	5.7	3.0 *	1.4
>12 months	10.3 *	20.1	13.0	7.2	6.2	3.9	4.0

— Cell contains fewer than 30 households (see Tables 7 and A-10).

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

‡ Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-14—Percent of Households with No Supermarket Redemption, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Percent of households with no supermarket redemption						
	All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	10.2%	25.0%	18.5%	10.6%	10.4%	3.8%	5.6%
Mid Atlantic	6.4 *	18.1	11.0	8.1	6.2 *	2.2	0.7
Midwest	4.6 *	14.9 *	9.4	6.9	3.1 *	2.1	0.7
Southeast	6.0 *	16.7	8.0	8.8	6.4 *	3.3	1.5
Southwest	3.3 *	16.1	8.4	5.8	2.8 *	0.7	0.3
Mountain Plains	5.4 *	17.6	16.0	5.7	4.2 *	1.5	0.7 *
West	2.9 *	10.0 *	8.2	4.3 *	2.5 *	1.0	1.6
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	5.2	16.4	9.6	7.0	5.5	2.0	1.2
Nonmetro, micropolitan	4.4	15.7	7.8	6.0	3.0 *	1.5	1.1
Nonmetro, noncore	7.7 *	21.6	16.6 *	9.7	5.2	3.0	1.6
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	6.2	23.7	12.2	10.5	3.7	2.8	1.2
No	5.2 *	16.2 *	10.0	6.8 *	5.3 *	2.0	1.2

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

ˆ Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-15—EBT Transactions and Redemption at Out-of-State Retailers: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average monthly out-of-state EBT redemption ¹		Households with any out-of-state transactions	
	Percent of transactions	Percent of redemption	Percent of all households	Avg % of dollars redeemed out-of-state
All households	1.8%	2.3%	3.8%	50.1%
Household type				
With and without children				
Households with children	1.8	2.2	4.3	46.9
Households without children	1.9	2.4	3.2 *	64.4 *
Types of households with children				
Single-adult households	1.8	2.2	4.3	47.8
Multiple-adult households	2.0	2.7	5.0	45.1
Children only	0.8 *	0.9 *	1.8 *	50.6
All households, by type				
With elderly	1.5	2.1	2.5	69.5
With disabled, nonelderly	1.9	2.3	3.6 *	54.3 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	1.7	2.2	4.3 *	46.3 *
Other households	2.3 *	2.7	4.3 *	59.3 *
Household size				
1	1.9	2.2	3.0	67.0
2	1.8	2.3	3.9 *	54.3 *
3	1.8	2.1	4.2 *	48.7 *
4+	1.8	2.4	4.9 *	43.9 *
Race of household head				
White	2.1	2.5	3.9	51.0
African American	2.0	2.5	4.4	48.6
Hispanic	0.8 *	0.9 *	1.4 *	55.6
Other	2.4	4.4 *	6.9 *	47.8
Employment status				
Households with earnings	1.6	2.0	3.7	46.2
Households without earnings	1.9 *	2.5 *	3.8	52.0 *
Receipt of TANF				
Yes	1.9	2.4	5.0	46.4
No	1.8	2.2	3.6 *	51.4 *
Food stamp benefit				
\$10 or less	1.5	1.5	1.7	95.6
\$11-100	2.0	2.1	2.7 *	74.4 *
\$101-200	1.9	2.2 *	3.6 *	62.2 *
\$201-300	1.7	2.3 *	4.4 *	51.1 *
\$301 or more	1.8	2.4 *	5.2 *	43.1 *
Minimum benefit	1.5	1.5	1.7	95.8
Maximum benefit	2.0	2.6 *	4.4 *	52.9 *
Months in certification period				
≤ 6 months	1.7	2.1	4.1	46.0
7-12 months	1.8	2.3	3.4 *	52.4 *
>12 months	2.8 *	3.4 *	3.8	72.2 *

¹ Table shows the percent of transactions and redemption by in-state households at out-of-state retailers. Households may cross State boundaries when redeeming benefits.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

‡ Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

**Table A-15—EBT Transactions and Redemption at Out-of-State Retailers: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Average monthly out-of-state EBT redemption ¹		Households with any out-of-state transactions	
	Percent of transactions	Percent of redemption	Percent of all households	Avg % of dollars redeemed out-of-state
Geographic location				
Region				
Northeast	1.2%	2.0%	3.0%	53.2%
Mid Atlantic	4.3 *	5.9 *	8.5 *	57.2
Midwest	1.1	1.4	3.5	25.8 *
Southeast	3.7 *	4.0 *	4.6 *	76.4 *
Southwest	0.4 *	0.6 *	1.5 *	31.7 *
Mountain Plains	1.6	2.1	3.9	41.2 *
West	2.3 *	2.9 *	4.3 *	60.7
Metro/Nonmetro areas				
Metropolitan	1.7	2.1	3.4	52.7
Nonmetro, micropolitan	1.7	1.9	3.7	45.6
Nonmetro, noncore	2.6 *	3.8 *	6.3 *	41.3 *
County with persistent poverty				
Yes	1.5	2.2	4.7	32.8
No	1.8 *	2.3	3.7 *	52.4 *

¹ Table shows the percent of transactions and redemption by in-state households at out-of-state retailers. Households may cross State boundaries when redeeming benefits.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-16—Average Percent of Monthly Benefits Redeemed By Days Since Issuance: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Cumulative percent of monthly benefit redeemed by ¹				
	Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	End of month
All households	21.2%	60.3%	80.5%	91.0%	97.0%
Household type					
With and without children					
Households with children	21.9	60.7	80.9	91.4	97.2
Households without children	18.8 *	58.8 *	79.0 *	89.7 *	96.2 *
Types of households with children					
Single-adult households	22.2	61.6	81.5	91.6	97.2
Multiple-adult households	22.3	59.7 *	80.4	91.2	97.4
Children only	17.5 *	56.2 *	78.0 *	90.0	96.3
All households, by type					
With elderly	13.7	51.7	74.2	87.4	95.3
With disabled, nonelderly	23.9 *	65.6 *	84.2 *	92.6 *	97.5 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	21.3 *	59.7 *	80.3 *	91.1 *	97.1 *
Other households	21.6 *	60.9 *	80.3 *	90.4 *	96.6 *
Household size					
1	18.3	58.7	78.9	89.5	96.0
2	21.4 *	60.9 *	81.0 *	91.3 *	97.0 *
3	21.9 *	60.8 *	80.5 *	91.0 *	96.9 *
4+	22.2 *	60.4 *	81.0 *	91.6 *	97.4 *
Race of household head					
White	20.5	56.8	78.0	89.7	96.6
African American	24.5 *	66.4 *	84.6 *	93.1 *	97.8 *
Hispanic	17.4 *	57.0	78.6	90.1	96.1
Other	17.1 *	55.3	78.0	89.5	96.9
Employment status					
Households with earnings	20.9	58.9	79.4	90.4	96.9
Households without earnings	21.4	61.0 *	81.1 *	91.3 *	97.0
Receipt of TANF					
Yes	22.0	62.7	82.8	92.5	97.4
No	21.0 *	59.6 *	79.8 *	90.6 *	96.8 *
Food stamp benefit					
\$10 or less	15.6	58.0	78.7	89.9	96.0
\$11-100	19.7 *	62.5 *	81.9 *	90.7	95.8
\$101-200	20.9 *	62.0 *	81.4 *	91.0	96.7 *
\$201-300	22.2 *	61.0 *	81.4 *	91.7 *	97.4 *
\$301 or more	21.2 *	58.7	79.4	90.7	97.1 *
Minimum benefit	15.6	58.0	78.7	89.9	96.0
Maximum benefit	21.4 *	59.5	80.2	91.1 *	97.2 *
Months in certification period					
≤ 6 months	21.6	59.8	80.3	90.8	96.8
7-12 months	21.2	61.0	80.9	91.5 *	97.3 *
>12 months	17.0 *	59.5	79.2	89.4	96.2

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-16—Average Percent of Monthly Benefits Redeemed By Days Since Issuance: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Cumulative percent of monthly benefit redeemed by ¹				
	Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	End of month
Geographic location					
Region					
Northeast	15.7%	59.4%	80.2%	91.4%	97.5%
Mid Atlantic	18.0	61.2	81.6	91.9	97.9
Midwest	24.1	62.8	82.9	92.6	97.7
Southeast	20.9	59.7	79.8	90.7	97.1
Southwest	22.9	59.7	79.0	89.0	95.0
Mountain Plains	20.7	58.2	79.5	90.9	97.0
West	19.0	56.8	78.4	90.3	97.1
Metro/Nonmetro areas					
Metropolitan	20.5	59.9	80.2	90.9	96.9
Nonmetro, micropolitan	23.5 *	61.0	81.0	91.4	97.2
Nonmetro, noncore	24.1 *	62.1 *	81.8 *	91.6	97.2
County with persistent poverty					
Yes	24.7	63.8	83.1	92.1	96.7
No	20.8 *	59.8 *	80.2 *	90.9 *	97.0

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-17—Distribution of Households by Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed in the First Week After Issuance: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Percent of benefits redeemed in first week after issuance ¹					
	< 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	91-100%
	<i>Percent of households</i>					
All households	6.1%	6.7%	23.9%	27.2%	15.5%	20.8%
Household type						
With and without children						
Households with children	3.9	6.0	23.5	30.0	17.1	19.4
Households without children	8.7 *	7.5 *	24.3	23.7 *	13.6 *	22.4 *
Types of households with children						
Single-adult households	4.1	5.7	22.5	29.9	17.6	20.3
Multiple-adult households	3.0 *	6.5	24.4	30.6	17.1	18.4
Children only	5.6	6.9	29.1 *	29.6	13.5 *	15.6 *
All households, by type						
With elderly	10.8	9.4	28.3	23.7	11.2	16.8
With disabled, nonelderly	6.1 *	4.7 *	19.6 *	24.5	16.9 *	28.3 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	3.9 *	6.4 *	24.8 *	31.0 *	16.7 *	17.4
Other households	6.6 *	7.8	22.4 *	24.4	15.4 *	23.6 *
Household size						
1	9.0	7.4	24.2	23.7	13.7	22.2
2	5.2 *	6.4	23.5	27.8 *	15.5 *	21.8
3	3.6 *	6.6	23.5	28.8 *	18.4 *	19.3 *
4+	3.3 *	5.8 *	23.9	31.8 *	16.9 *	18.3 *
Race of household head						
White	7.0	7.7	26.2	27.0	14.6	17.6
African American	5.3 *	5.0 *	17.8 *	26.4	17.9 *	27.8 *
Hispanic	5.0 *	6.9	28.3	29.5 *	13.6	16.8
Other	5.6	9.2	30.6 *	27.1	15.1	12.5 *
Employment status						
Households with earnings	4.5	6.8	24.4	29.4	16.1	19.0
Households without earnings	6.7 *	6.7	23.7	26.3 *	15.3	21.5 *
Receipt of TANF						
Yes	3.6	6.2	20.9	29.9	18.4	21.1
No	6.5 *	6.8	24.4 *	26.6 *	15.0 *	20.7
Food stamp benefit						
\$10 or less	18.1	2.4	23.8	17.3	8.2	30.2
\$11-100	9.3 *	6.4 *	20.2 *	23.2 *	14.9 *	26.0 *
\$101-200	5.2 *	7.0 *	23.8	26.0 *	16.1 *	22.2 *
\$201-300	3.5 *	7.1 *	25.0	30.4 *	16.5 *	17.6 *
\$301 or more	3.6 *	7.1 *	27.1	32.4 *	16.1 *	13.9 *
Minimum benefit	18.1	2.4	23.8	17.3	8.2	30.2
Maximum benefit	4.2 *	8.2 *	26.3	27.7 *	15.3 *	18.6 *

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-17—Distribution of Households by Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed in the First Week After Issuance: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Percent of benefits redeemed in first week after issuance ¹					
	< 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	91-100%
	<i>Percent of households</i>					
Months in certification period						
≤ 6 months	4.9%	6.8%	23.9%	28.7%	16.2%	19.7%
7-12 months	6.5 *	6.4	24.0	26.4 *	15.1	21.7 *
>12 months	9.8 *	7.4	23.2	23.7 *	14.3	21.8
Geographic location						
Region						
Northeast	5.1	7.5	28.2	25.8	12.5	21.0
Mid Atlantic	5.9	6.8	24.3	28.1	15.4	19.6
Midwest	6.0	5.6	21.1	26.8	17.0	23.7
Southeast	7.1	6.9	22.8	26.1	15.7	21.6
Southwest	5.6	6.8	24.4	28.6	15.7	19.0
Mountain Plains	7.2	7.4	24.2	26.8	14.9	19.7
West	6.0	7.9	27.3	28.4	14.9	15.6
Metro/Nonmetro areas						
Metropolitan	6.2	6.9	24.1	27.1	15.2	20.7
Nonmetro, micropolitan	5.5	6.2	23.3	27.7	15.9	21.6
Nonmetro, noncore	6.1	5.5 *	22.9	27.0	17.6 *	20.9
County with persistent poverty						
Yes	5.1	5.2	20.2	27.4	17.6	24.7
No	6.2 *	6.9 *	24.3 *	27.1	15.3 *	20.3 *

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-18—Distribution of Households by Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed in Two Weeks After Issuance: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Percent of benefits redeemed in two weeks after issuance ¹					
	< 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	91-100%
	<i>Percent of households</i>					
All households	1.5%	1.1%	8.2%	21.2%	20.2%	47.8%
Household type						
With and without children						
Households with children	0.9	0.8	6.5	22.0	22.1	47.8
Households without children	2.3 *	1.4 *	10.2 *	20.4 *	18.0 *	47.7
Types of households with children						
Single-adult households	0.9	0.8	6.4	21.2	22.3	48.5
Multiple-adult households	0.8	0.7	6.8	22.0	21.7	48.2
Children only	1.1	1.2	7.3	28.5 *	21.5	40.4 *
All households, by type						
With elderly	2.6	1.4	13.6	24.4	18.2	39.8
With disabled, nonelderly	1.7 *	1.1	6.1 *	15.8 *	18.2	57.1 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	0.9 *	0.8 *	6.9 *	23.5	22.7 *	45.2 *
Other households	1.8 *	1.6	8.8 *	19.7 *	18.4	49.8 *
Household size						
1	2.4	1.4	10.3	20.6	17.9	47.4
2	1.1 *	1.0	7.2 *	21.0	21.3 *	48.4
3	0.9 *	0.8 *	7.2 *	22.0	21.9 *	47.2
4+	0.8 *	0.7 *	6.0 *	22.2	22.2 *	48.2
Race of household head						
White	1.9	1.2	9.5	23.3	21.2	43.0
African American	1.3 *	1.1	5.7 *	16.3 *	18.5 *	57.2 *
Hispanic	1.1 *	0.9	9.0	24.5	21.0	43.6
Other	1.3	0.7	10.6	26.9	21.7	38.8 *
Employment status						
Households with earnings	1.2	0.8	7.8	22.9	20.9	46.5
Households without earnings	1.7 *	1.2 *	8.4	20.6 *	19.9	48.3 *
Receipt of TANF						
Yes	0.4	1.0	5.9	19.3	21.8	51.6
No	1.7 *	1.1	8.6 *	21.6 *	19.9 *	47.1 *
Food stamp benefit						
\$10 or less	6.0	0.8	13.6	12.8	11.2	55.6
\$11-100	2.4 *	1.4	8.3 *	18.0 *	16.6 *	53.3
\$101-200	1.2 *	1.0	8.5 *	20.3 *	19.6 *	49.4 *
\$201-300	0.6 *	1.1	7.0 *	23.1 *	24.0 *	44.3 *
\$301 or more	1.0 *	0.9	7.6 *	26.2 *	23.4 *	40.9 *
Minimum benefit	6.0	0.8	13.6	12.8	11.2	55.6
Maximum benefit	0.6 *	0.9	8.9 *	23.9 *	22.4 *	43.3 *

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

**Table A-18—Distribution of Households by Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed in Two Weeks After Issuance:
FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Percent of benefits redeemed in two weeks after issuance ¹					
	< 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	91-100%
	<i>Percent of households</i>					
Months in certification period						
≤ 6 months	1.2%	1.0%	7.3%	22.2%	21.1%	47.2%
7-12 months	1.7 *	1.0	8.7 *	20.7	19.7	48.2
>12 months	2.4 *	1.6	10.2 *	19.7	18.0 *	48.0
Geographic location						
Region						
Northeast	1.3	0.8	9.6	23.8	17.3	47.1
Mid Atlantic	1.6	1.0	8.0	21.4	20.1	48.0
Midwest	1.3	0.8	6.5	18.9	20.1	52.3
Southeast	1.9	1.2	8.3	20.3	20.5	47.9
Southwest	1.3	1.5	9.4	23.0	19.8	45.0
Mountain Plains	1.7	1.0	8.6	21.5	21.2	46.0
West	2.0	1.4	9.0	23.3	23.4	41.0
Metro/Nonmetro areas						
Metropolitan	1.6	1.1	8.3	21.5	19.9	47.6
Nonmetro, micropolitan	1.5	1.0	7.8	20.8	21.6	47.3
Nonmetro, noncore	1.3	1.0	7.9	19.8	20.4	49.7
County with persistent poverty						
Yes	0.9	1.0	6.6	18.7	19.7	53.1
No	1.6 *	1.1	8.4 *	21.5 *	20.2	47.1 *

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-19—Average Dollar Amount of Monthly Issuance Carried Over to the Next Month, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average dollar amount of unspent issuance ¹						
	All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
		< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
All households	\$5.95	\$0.64	\$1.75	\$2.97	\$4.71	\$6.65	\$12.15
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	7.90	0.52	1.09	1.91	4.41	6.47	12.11
Households without children	3.62*	0.65	1.83*	3.29*	4.88	8.28	15.77
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	7.67	0.58	1.26	1.80	4.33	6.66	11.77
Multiple-adult households	8.36	0.11*	0.72	1.96	3.66	5.31	12.29
Children only	8.27	0.26	0.60	2.67	6.00	7.65	15.56
All households, by type							
With elderly	3.78	0.66	2.13	3.91	5.77	9.43	19.88
With disabled, nonelderly	3.56	0.60	1.39*	2.43*	4.06*	5.56	8.20
With children, no elderly or disabled	8.59*	0.69	0.90*	2.12*	4.76	6.62	12.64
Other households	4.69*	0.66	1.54	3.28	4.61*	7.98	12.74
Household size							
1	3.61	0.66	1.83	3.39	4.96	15.04	16.75
2	5.22*	0.48	1.66	2.09*	4.67	6.73*	17.29
3	8.09*	0.42	0.68*	1.30*	4.51	6.79*	11.61
4+	9.46*	1.16	1.17	2.34	3.23*	5.44*	12.24
Race of household head							
White	6.05	0.64	1.85	3.10	5.39	7.38	12.90
African American	4.65*	0.62	1.43*	2.88	3.63*	5.05*	8.40*
Hispanic	8.33*	0.65	2.12	2.43	4.96	8.05	18.60*
Other	7.13	0.96	1.44	3.56	5.32	6.79	13.37
Employment status							
Households with earnings	7.40	0.75	1.12	2.62	4.97	7.16	13.15
Households without earnings	5.36*	0.62	1.82*	3.06	4.60	6.31	11.57
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	7.53	0.26	1.13	1.66	3.91	5.48	11.76
No	5.66*	0.64*	1.77*	3.05*	4.79	7.07*	12.31
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	0.40	0.40	—	—	—	—	—
\$11-100	2.35*	0.97*	1.75	2.98	—	—	—
\$101-200	4.72*	—	—	—	4.66	—	—
\$201-300	6.55*	—	—	—	—	6.56	—
\$301 or more	12.28*	—	—	—	—	—	12.29
Minimum benefit	0.40	0.40	—	—	—	—	—
Maximum benefit	6.55*	—	—	—	4.28	6.71	11.60

¹ Unspent issuance is the amount of issuance unredeemed each month, taken as the maximum of zero and (issuance - redemption). This measure ignores unspent issuance from prior months. Issuance months are defined for each household to begin on their issuance day.

— Not applicable.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

› Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-19—Average Dollar Amount of Monthly Issuance Carried Over to the Next Month, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Average dollar amount of unspent issuance ¹						
	All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
		< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	\$7.93	\$0.82	\$1.40	\$2.72	\$4.74	\$6.96	\$14.06
7-12 months	4.51*	0.59	1.73	2.88	4.74	6.23	8.31*
>12 months	3.29*	0.68	1.90	3.49	4.17	5.54	18.26
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	4.32	0.36	1.30	2.36	4.11	5.04	8.54
Mid Atlantic	3.62	0.77	1.29	2.55	3.70	4.70	6.05
Midwest	4.42	0.60	1.65	2.45	3.83	4.92	8.75
Southeast	5.67	0.71	1.62	3.18	4.44	6.75	11.12
Southwest	11.14	0.62	2.15	4.61	7.90	10.83	21.03
Mountain Plains	5.71	0.81	1.78	3.15	4.50	7.47	10.71
West	5.84	0.71	2.45	2.87	5.03	6.44	10.27
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	6.14	0.63	1.66	2.86	4.71	6.80	12.70
Nonmetro, micropolitan	5.46	0.60	2.07	3.56	4.53	5.92	10.51
Nonmetro, noncore	5.24	0.71	1.85	3.02	4.93	6.41	9.97
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	6.73	0.60	1.93	4.00	5.36	7.36	12.52
No	5.85	0.64	1.72	2.86*	4.64	6.55	12.07

¹ Unspent issuance is the amount of issuance unredeemed each month, taken as the maximum of zero and (issuance - redemption). This measure ignores unspent issuance from prior months. Issuance months are defined for each household to begin on their issuance day.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

[‡] Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-20—Distribution of Households by Amount of Monthly Issuance Carried Over to the Next Month: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Dollar amount of unspent issuance ¹				
	< \$1	\$1-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	> \$50
	<i>Percent of households</i>				
All households	50.8%	36.8%	6.3%	3.4%	2.7%
Household type					
With and without children					
Households with children	49.4	35.8	6.4	4.3	4.2
Households without children	52.6 *	38.0 *	6.2	2.3 *	0.9 *
Types of households with children					
Single-adult households	49.1	36.4	6.4	4.4	3.8
Multiple-adult households	50.7	34.2	6.0	4.2	4.9
Children only	46.6	36.7	7.6	4.4	4.6
All households, by type					
With elderly	49.4	40.6	7.1	2.1	0.9
With disabled, nonelderly	56.0 *	36.3 *	4.4 *	2.1	1.3
With children, no elderly or disabled	48.0	35.9 *	6.9	4.7 *	4.5 *
Other households	52.6 *	35.3 *	7.0	3.6 *	1.6
Household size					
1	52.2	38.1	6.5	2.4	0.8
2	51.0	36.8	6.2	3.8 *	2.2 *
3	49.3 *	35.6 *	6.1	4.6 *	4.3 *
4+	49.0 *	35.2 *	6.3	4.2 *	5.4 *
Race of household head					
White	47.9	39.1	7.0	3.6	2.4
African American	56.3 *	33.9 *	5.1 *	2.7 *	2.1
Hispanic	48.5	36.2 *	6.3	4.2	4.7 *
Other	45.4	38.7	9.1	3.9	2.9
Employment status					
Households with earnings	48.3	36.9	6.5	4.4	4.0
Households without earnings	51.8 *	36.8	6.2	3.0 *	2.1 *
Receipt of TANF					
Yes	52.8	33.5	5.9	3.8	4.0
No	50.5 *	37.4 *	6.4	3.4	2.4 *
Food stamp benefit					
\$10 or less	75.8	24.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
\$11-100	53.1 *	41.0 *	4.7 *	1.1 *	0.1 *
\$101-200	50.1 *	37.5 *	7.1 *	3.7 *	1.6 *
\$201-300	48.6 *	36.2 *	7.2 *	4.5 *	3.4 *
\$301 or more	46.1 *	34.3 *	7.4 *	5.3 *	7.0 *
Minimum benefit	75.8	24.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maximum benefit	48.1 *	36.5 *	8.2 *	4.3 *	2.9 *

¹ Unspent issuance is the amount of issuance unredeemed each month, taken as the maximum of zero and (issuance - redemption). This measure ignores unspent issuance from prior months. Issuance months are defined for each household to begin on their issuance day.
* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.
² Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.
Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-20—Distribution of Households by Amount of Monthly Issuance Carried Over to the Next Month: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Dollar amount of unspent issuance ¹				
	< \$1	\$1-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	> \$50
	<i>Percent of households</i>				
Months in certification period					
≤ 6 months	49.3%	35.5%	6.6%	4.5%	4.2%
7-12 months	52.0 *	37.4 *	6.2	2.7 *	1.6 *
>12 months	52.0	40.2 *	5.6	1.7 *	0.5 *
Geographic location					
Region					
Northeast	53.0	35.7	6.8	3.1	1.4
Mid Atlantic	55.1	36.5	5.0	2.3	1.0
Midwest	51.4	38.5	5.8	2.8	1.5
Southeast	52.4	35.8	6.2	3.3	2.2
Southwest	48.5	31.9	7.2	5.4	7.0
Mountain Plains	48.0	39.7	6.4	3.5	2.3
West	46.3	41.2	6.9	3.2	2.3
Metro/Nonmetro areas					
Metropolitan	51.4	36.0	6.3	3.4	2.9
Nonmetro, micropolitan	48.6 *	39.2 *	6.6	3.5	2.1 *
Nonmetro, noncore	49.7	38.9 *	6.0	3.3	2.2
County with persistent poverty					
Yes	52.0	34.9	6.0	2.8	4.2
No	50.7	37.0 *	6.3	3.5	2.5 *

¹ Unspent issuance is the amount of issuance unredeemed each month, taken as the maximum of zero and (issuance - redemption). This measure ignores unspent issuance from prior months. Issuance months are defined for each household to begin on their issuance day.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-21—Average EBT Balance at the End of the Issuance Month, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Average monthly ending balance ¹						
	All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
		< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
All households	\$13.16	\$2.52	\$4.68	\$8.56	\$11.86	\$15.13	\$22.67
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	15.64	2.70	2.84	4.65	8.23	14.72	22.58
Households without children	10.19*	2.50	4.90*	9.73*	13.97*	18.71	30.29
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	14.99	2.97	3.52	3.48	8.62	15.90	20.22
Multiple-adult households	17.54	0.96	1.35	7.67	6.27	11.26*	25.89
Children only	14.49	0.92	1.04*	5.43	9.90	12.79	29.08
All households, by type							
With elderly	13.04	2.52	5.92	12.77	22.61	28.66	57.66
With disabled, nonelderly	9.53*	2.57	3.44*	6.80*	10.57*	14.01	22.04
With children, no elderly or disabled	16.28*	3.41	2.97*	3.84*	9.08*	14.66	22.29
Other households	9.84*	1.01*	2.11*	8.15*	9.82*	14.64	21.35
Household size							
1	10.31	2.40	5.00	9.92	14.13	35.58	45.61
2	11.86	3.34	3.72	5.35*	9.62*	16.01	28.21
3	15.54*	1.22*	3.43	3.72*	7.86*	14.79	21.35
4+	17.99*	3.14	2.10*	6.72	5.63*	11.39	22.99
Race of household head							
White	15.43	2.51	5.68	10.33	14.75	19.69	27.64
African American	9.28*	2.68	3.52*	5.91*	7.96*	9.93*	15.35*
Hispanic	13.37	2.26	3.59	6.28*	9.36*	13.98*	26.03
Other	19.79	1.60	4.36	12.07	20.99	16.68	30.52
Employment status							
Households with earnings	15.28	3.01	3.80	6.48	9.86	15.59	26.17
Households without earnings	12.30*	2.45	4.78	9.10*	12.64*	14.82	20.62*
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	14.65	1.86	2.42	5.51	8.15	13.89	19.90
No	12.89	2.53	4.74*	8.74	12.24*	15.57	23.80
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	1.99	1.99	—	—	—	—	—
\$11-100	6.53*	3.25	4.68	8.47	—	—	—
\$101-200	11.89*	—	—	—	11.83	—	—
\$201-300	15.08*	—	—	—	—	15.09	—
\$301 or more	22.86*	—	—	—	—	—	22.87
Minimum benefit	1.99	1.99	—	—	—	—	—
Maximum benefit	16.55*	—	—	—	13.06	15.91	25.10

¹ The monthly ending balance is the EBT account balance at the time of the next issuance. **This measure reflects the long-run cumulation of unspent issuance from all prior months.**

— Not applicable.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

› Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-21—Average EBT Balance at the End of the Issuance Month, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Average monthly ending balance ¹						
	All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
		< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	\$15.33	\$2.74	\$3.12	\$6.60	\$9.93	\$14.57	\$25.10
7-12 months	11.96*	2.64	4.94	8.90	13.89	16.13	17.97*
>12 months	8.73*	2.11	4.73	9.85	13.21	› 15.99	› 24.88
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	13.73	2.56	3.50	7.36	16.63	11.80	20.28
Mid Atlantic	9.17	2.24	4.31	8.14	10.00	11.19	12.92
Midwest	10.29	2.66	5.39	7.35	9.87	10.61	17.60
Southeast	13.74	2.65	3.36	9.17	10.34	21.05	22.36
Southwest	17.83	2.28	4.81	10.73	13.04	19.43	30.25
Mountain Plains	13.63	2.40	4.59	9.12	10.97	16.99	24.72
West	14.57	2.48	4.81	9.37	11.93	15.15	26.20
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	13.24	2.30	4.44	7.40	12.19	15.13	22.82
Nonmetro, micropolitan	13.15	2.07	5.20	12.47	10.92	14.62	22.44
Nonmetro, noncore	12.03	› 3.98	5.32	11.11	10.23	15.71	19.02
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	11.48	› 3.92	4.07	11.15	7.65	13.45	19.32
No	13.29	2.36	4.79	8.22	12.29*	15.33	22.83

¹ The monthly ending balance is the EBT account balance at the time of the next issuance. **This measure reflects the long-run cumulation of unspent issuance from all prior months.**

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

› Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-22—Distribution of Households by EBT Balance at the End of the Issuance Month: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Monthly ending balance ¹				
	< \$1	\$1-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	> \$50
	<i>Percent of households</i>				
All households	35.4%	46.5%	7.6%	4.3%	6.2%
Household type					
With and without children					
Households with children	33.9	46.7	7.0	4.4	8.0
Households without children	37.3 *	46.2	8.2 *	4.1	4.2 *
Types of households with children					
Single-adult households	34.4	46.7	6.9	4.4	7.6
Multiple-adult households	33.4	46.4	6.7	4.8	8.8
Children only	31.2	47.6	9.0	4.0	8.3
All households, by type					
With elderly	34.5	46.7	9.0	5.0	4.8
With disabled, nonelderly	39.9 *	47.1	6.2 *	2.8 *	4.1
With children, no elderly or disabled	32.7	46.7	7.5 *	4.8	8.4 *
Other households	37.7 *	44.6	8.4	4.2	5.1
Household size					
1	37.2	46.3	8.3	4.0	4.3
2	35.2	46.9	7.8	4.1	6.0 *
3	33.1 *	46.7	7.1	4.7	8.4 *
4+	34.2 *	46.3	6.3 *	4.7	8.6 *
Race of household head					
White	31.9	47.5	9.0	4.6	6.9
African American	41.0 *	45.4 *	5.8 *	3.1 *	4.7 *
Hispanic	35.0 *	45.7	7.1 *	4.8	7.4
Other	30.6	46.5	9.1	6.9	7.0
Employment status					
Households with earnings	31.8	47.8	7.6	4.8	8.0
Households without earnings	36.9 *	46.0 *	7.5	4.0 *	5.5 *
Receipt of TANF					
Yes	38.8	44.0	6.2	3.5	7.6
No	34.8 *	47.0 *	7.8 *	4.4 *	6.0 *
Food stamp benefit					
\$10 or less	54.5	42.3	2.8	0.2	0.3
\$11-100	37.8 *	49.3 *	7.3 *	3.3 *	2.2 *
\$101-200	35.5 *	46.1	8.3 *	4.5 *	5.6 *
\$201-300	32.2 *	46.6 *	8.1 *	5.1 *	8.1 *
\$301 or more	31.7 *	44.8	7.3 *	5.1 *	11.1 *
Minimum benefit	54.5	42.3	2.8	0.2	0.3
Maximum benefit	33.0 *	45.4	8.7 *	5.4 *	7.5 *

¹ The monthly ending balance is the EBT account balance at the time of the next issuance. **This measure reflects the long-run cumulation of unspent issuance from all prior months.**

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-22—Distribution of Households by EBT Balance at the End of the Issuance Month: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Monthly ending balance ¹				
	< \$1	\$1-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	> \$50
	<i>Percent of households</i>				
Months in certification period					
≤ 6 months	33.9%	46.2%	7.3%	4.8%	7.8%
7-12 months	36.7 *	46.6	7.6	3.7 *	5.4 *
>12 months	36.6	47.7	8.5	4.5	2.7 *
Geographic location					
Region					
Northeast	38.8	42.9	7.5	4.1	6.7
Mid Atlantic	39.8	45.9	6.8	3.4	4.2
Midwest	35.1	49.7	7.3	3.6	4.2
Southeast	37.6	44.5	7.6	4.2	6.2
Southwest	33.1	43.2	7.6	5.7	10.4
Mountain Plains	32.2	48.4	8.5	5.0	5.8
West	31.8	49.4	8.1	4.2	6.4
Metro/Nonmetro areas					
Metropolitan	36.6	45.3	7.4	4.3	6.4
Nonmetro, micropolitan	31.9 *	50.0 *	8.4	3.9	5.8
Nonmetro, noncore	32.2 *	49.9 *	7.9	4.6	5.4
County with persistent poverty					
Yes	36.3	46.8	6.6	4.4	6.0
No	35.4	46.4	7.7 *	4.2	6.3

¹ The monthly ending balance is the EBT account balance at the time of the next issuance. **This measure reflects the long-run cumulation of unspent issuance from all prior months.**

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. EBT statistics are calculated at the household level as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes. This table excludes households for which issuance date could not be imputed, and case-months with multiple issuances. The sample for this table represents 71.2 percent of the full QC sample (compared with 77.3% for other tables).

Table A-23—Prevalence of EBT Purchase Inactivity, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Percent of households ever inactive during FY2003 ¹						
	All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
All households	8.5%	33.8%	14.8%	9.5%	5.7%	4.1%	3.8%
Household type							
With and without children							
Households with children	4.6	18.7	8.7	6.7	5.3	4.2	3.8
Households without children	13.0 *	35.0 *	15.5 *	10.3 *	6.0	3.3	4.2
Types of households with children							
Single-adult households	4.7	21.1	8.8	6.7	5.2	4.3	3.6
Multiple-adult households	4.0	3.0 †	6.0 †	3.6 †	4.5	3.4	4.1
Children only	6.3	7.8 †	18.8 †	16.4 †	6.8	5.6	3.0
All households, by type							
With elderly	16.8	38.8	16.2	11.1	7.0	2.0 †	3.8 †
With disabled, nonelderly	10.2 *	31.0 *	14.0	8.2	5.9	3.7	2.7
With children, no elderly or disabled	4.8 *	19.2 *	9.8	8.4	5.8	4.3	3.9
Other households	5.7 *	12.5 *	8.8 †	10.7	5.0	4.5	2.4 †
Household size							
1	13.4	35.1	15.4	10.7	6.2	4.0 †	5.2 †
2	7.0 *	27.3 *	15.0	7.9	5.7	4.4	4.9 †
3	4.2 *	15.0 †	5.3 †	4.4 *	3.6 *	3.9	4.4
4+	3.7 *	3.8 †	5.0 †	3.8 †	5.0	3.6	3.4
Race of household head							
White	9.9	38.4	17.6	9.6	5.4	3.6	3.7
African American	7.3 *	26.9 *	10.1 *	9.2	6.0	5.0	3.4
Hispanic	7.4 *	28.9	14.7	9.7	6.1	4.0	4.6
Other	7.2 *	24.2	18.6	9.9	6.2	3.0 †	4.4
Employment status							
Households with earnings	6.0	26.6	12.3	9.0	5.9	3.7	4.2
Households without earnings	9.5 *	34.7 *	15.1	9.6	5.7	4.4	3.5
Receipt of TANF							
Yes	3.6	13.3 †	2.8 †	7.4	3.7	3.5	3.1
No	9.3 *	34.2 *	15.1 *	9.6	6.0 *	4.3	4.0
Food stamp benefit							
\$10 or less	38.9	38.9	—	—	—	—	—
\$11-100	13.6 *	26.5 *	14.8	9.5	—	—	—
\$101-200	5.7 *	—	—	—	5.7	—	—
\$201-300	4.1 *	—	—	—	—	4.1	—
\$301 or more	3.8 *	—	—	—	—	—	3.8
Minimum benefit	38.9	38.9	—	—	—	—	—
Maximum benefit	4.6 *	—	—	—	4.9	4.1	4.2
Months in certification period							
≤ 6 months	5.3	23.8	11.8	7.8	5.1	4.2	4.4
7-12 months	10.3 *	34.4 *	16.5	10.0	6.3	3.8	2.6 *
>12 months	14.6 *	37.5 *	12.9	10.2	6.8	6.5 †	2.7 †

¹ Households are identified as "ever inactive" if issuance was received but no purchase transactions were made during any month.

— Not applicable.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

† Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

**Table A-23—Prevalence of EBT Purchase Inactivity, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount:
FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued**

	Percent of households ever inactive during FY2003 ¹						
	All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
		<\$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	>\$300
Geographic location							
Region							
Northeast	9.2%	34.8%	17.4%	11.2%	7.3%	3.2%	2.5%
Mid Atlantic	10.5	33.7	16.0	9.9	7.0	4.9	5.5
Midwest	8.4	34.2	13.2	8.5	4.8	4.3	3.8
Southeast	8.9	31.8	15.9	11.6	6.2	4.6	4.1
Southwest	6.8	29.2	12.6	9.5	4.0	4.1	3.6
Mountain Plains	9.3	38.2	19.5	7.8	5.1	3.8	3.1
West	7.6	38.2	19.6	8.0	6.1	3.3	4.0
Metro/Nonmetro areas							
Metropolitan	8.6	32.2	14.9	9.6	6.4	4.5	4.2
Nonmetro, micropolitan	8.3	35.8	16.3	9.7	3.9 *	3.0	2.4
Nonmetro, noncore	8.1	38.9	12.5	8.4	2.3 *	2.7	2.1 *
County with persistent poverty							
Yes	6.3	25.5	13.4	8.3	2.2	3.4	3.4
No	8.7 *	34.7 *	15.0	9.6	6.1 *	4.2	3.8

¹ Households are identified as "ever inactive" if issuance was received but no purchase transactions were made during any month.

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-24—Distribution of Households by Months of EBT Purchase Inactivity: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample

	Percent of households by number of months of inactivity			Percent of households with consecutive months of inactivity
	Zero	One	More than one	
All households	91.5%	6.3%	2.2%	0.7%
Household type				
With and without children				
Households with children	95.4	4.2	0.4	0.1
Households without children	87.0 *	8.7 *	4.3 *	1.4 *
Types of households with children				
Single-adult households	95.3	4.3	0.4	> 0.1
Multiple-adult households	96.0	3.7	0.3	> 0.2
Children only	93.7	5.8	> 0.5	> 0.2
All households, by type				
With elderly	83.2	10.4	6.4	2.1
With disabled, nonelderly	89.8 *	7.2 *	3.0 *	1.0 *
With children, no elderly or disabled	95.2 *	4.4 *	0.4 *	0.1 *
Other households	94.3 *	5.0 *	0.7 *	> 0.3 *
Household size				
1	86.6	8.9	4.5	1.4
2	93.0 *	5.8 *	1.2 *	0.4 *
3	95.8 *	3.9 *	0.2 *	> 0.1 *
4+	96.3 *	3.5 *	0.2 *	> 0.1 *
Race of household head				
White	90.1	6.8	3.1	0.9
African American	92.7 *	5.9 *	1.4 *	0.4 *
Hispanic	92.6 *	6.0	1.4 *	0.8
Other	92.8 *	6.0	1.2 *	> 0.3 *
Employment status				
Households with earnings	94.0	5.1	0.9	0.2
Households without earnings	90.5 *	6.8 *	2.7 *	0.9 *
Receipt of TANF				
Yes	96.4	3.4	> 0.2	> 0.0
No	90.7 *	6.8 *	2.5 *	0.8 *
Food stamp benefit				
\$10 or less	61.1	18.7	20.2	6.5
\$11-100	86.4 *	10.0 *	3.6 *	1.2 *
\$101-200	94.3 *	4.9 *	0.9 *	0.3 *
\$201-300	95.9 *	3.9 *	0.2 *	> 0.0 *
\$301 or more	96.2 *	3.6 *	> 0.2 *	> 0.1 *
Minimum benefit	61.1	18.7	20.2	6.5
Maximum benefit	95.4 *	4.0 *	0.6 *	0.2 *
Months in certification period				
≤ 6 months	94.7	4.8	0.6	0.2
7-12 months	89.7 *	7.1 *	3.2 *	1.0 *
>12 months	85.4 *	9.4 *	5.1 *	1.8 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

> Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Table A-24—Distribution of Households by Months of EBT Purchase Inactivity: FY2003 Matched QC-ALERT Sample
— Continued

	Percent of households by number of months of inactivity			Percent of households with consecutive months of inactivity
	Zero	One	More than one	
Geographic location				
Region				
Northeast	90.8%	6.4%	2.8%	1.0%
Mid Atlantic	89.5	7.8	2.6	0.4
Midwest	91.6	6.2	2.2	0.7
Southeast	91.1	6.7	2.2	0.8
Southwest	93.2	5.5	1.4	0.4
Mountain Plains	90.7	6.3	3.0	0.9
West	92.4	5.9	1.6	0.6
Metro/Nonmetro areas				
Metropolitan	91.4	6.4	2.1	0.7
Nonmetro, micropolitan	91.7	6.1	2.2	0.6
Nonmetro, noncore	91.9	5.4	2.7	0.7
County with persistent poverty				
Yes	93.7	4.9	1.4	[†] 0.3
No	91.3 *	6.4 *	2.3 *	0.8 *

* Denotes statistically significant difference in means and proportions (.05 level). Comparisons are made within table columns, relative to the first row in each subgroup category. The Bonferroni adjustment was used to control for multiplicity in the number of tests when household subgroups contain more than two categories.

[†] Denotes individual estimates not meeting the standards of reliability or precision due to inadequate cell size or large coefficient of variation.

Source: USDA, Fiscal Year 2003 Food Stamp Program Quality Control data and ALERT data. Matched sample excludes the following States: California, Delaware, Guam, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Household-level EBT statistics are calculated as average monthly statistics over the three months centered on the QC sample month. See Table 7 for sample sizes.

Appendix B

EBT Benefit Redemption Characteristics: State-level Statistics from Nationwide ALERT Files

Table B-1—Average Number of Monthly EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household, and Distribution of Households by Number of Transactions, FY2003¹

	Average number of transactions per household	Average number of transactions per \$100	Number of monthly transactions					
			One	2-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	> 20
			<i>Percent of households</i>					
Total U.S.	7.6	3.9	12.0%	35.9%	28.0%	13.2%	5.8%	5.1%
Alabama	7.6	3.6	9.6	35.2	31.0	14.7	5.8	3.7
Alaska	8.8	2.8	12.5	31.2	26.8	14.2	7.1	8.2
Arizona	8.8	3.9	7.7	32.1	30.0	15.8	7.6	6.8
Arkansas	7.7	3.8	10.5	34.4	29.9	14.7	6.2	4.3
California	8.1	3.8	8.2	34.9	30.9	14.5	6.3	5.3
Colorado	7.1	3.5	13.4	36.5	27.9	12.9	5.4	3.8
Connecticut	5.8	3.7	20.3	41.7	22.8	8.8	3.6	2.8
Delaware	6.4	3.3	12.5	42.3	27.9	10.7	4.1	2.5
District of Columbia	7.3	3.8	9.4	38.2	30.9	12.9	5.0	3.6
Florida	6.2	3.6	15.2	42.0	26.2	10.2	3.8	2.5
Georgia	7.2	3.4	10.9	36.9	30.4	13.4	5.1	3.4
Hawaii	12.8	4.8	4.5	21.4	26.0	18.4	11.9	17.7
Idaho	7.6	3.9	12.5	34.1	28.0	14.5	6.5	4.5
Illinois	8.3	4.1	9.4	34.4	28.8	14.5	6.8	6.2
Indiana	7.4	3.6	10.3	36.6	30.1	13.7	5.5	3.8
Iowa	7.7	4.2	10.2	36.4	28.8	13.8	6.1	4.8
Kansas	6.8	3.9	14.4	38.3	27.0	12.0	4.9	3.5
Kentucky	7.4	3.9	12.1	36.0	28.1	13.5	5.8	4.4
Louisiana	9.0	4.0	7.3	30.6	30.5	16.6	7.9	7.2
Maine	6.4	4.0	13.8	43.3	26.0	10.0	3.9	3.0
Maryland	7.3	3.9	13.9	37.3	26.7	11.9	5.2	5.0
Massachusetts	5.7	3.4	17.9	43.7	24.4	8.6	3.2	2.2
Michigan	7.1	3.9	13.6	38.1	26.8	11.9	5.1	4.5
Minnesota	6.5	3.4	16.4	38.8	26.0	11.0	4.5	3.3
Mississippi	7.5	3.8	12.2	35.6	27.8	13.9	6.1	4.6
Missouri	7.4	3.8	11.1	37.2	29.0	13.1	5.4	4.1
Montana	8.1	4.1	11.3	32.6	28.7	14.8	6.9	5.7
Nebraska	6.7	3.8	17.4	36.3	26.0	11.8	4.9	3.5
Nevada	7.4	3.7	11.4	38.0	27.8	12.8	5.4	4.6
New Hampshire	5.2	3.3	21.2	44.0	23.2	7.6	2.6	1.6
New Jersey	7.8	4.3	13.8	36.5	25.3	12.0	5.8	6.5
New Mexico	7.7	3.8	10.7	34.6	29.4	14.4	6.2	4.6
New York	9.3	4.9	10.4	31.3	26.8	14.5	7.6	9.5
North Carolina	7.0	3.5	12.4	37.2	29.3	13.0	4.9	3.1
North Dakota	6.9	3.8	14.0	36.9	28.4	12.6	5.0	3.2
Ohio	7.1	3.7	12.7	37.6	28.0	12.5	5.2	4.0
Oklahoma	8.5	4.2	13.8	31.0	25.4	14.4	7.5	7.8
Oregon	8.4	4.9	11.1	32.2	28.0	14.8	7.2	6.6
Pennsylvania	7.2	4.0	13.7	38.1	26.6	11.8	5.2	4.7
Rhode Island	7.0	4.1	16.7	36.5	25.4	11.8	5.2	4.4
South Carolina	6.8	3.4	11.8	38.0	30.6	12.8	4.4	2.4
South Dakota	8.1	3.9	12.6	31.3	28.3	15.1	7.0	5.7
Tennessee	7.1	3.7	13.6	36.1	28.7	12.9	5.2	3.6
Texas	8.1	3.8	11.2	33.9	27.7	14.4	6.8	6.0
Utah	8.1	3.8	10.6	32.8	29.3	15.2	6.8	5.3
Vermont	6.8	3.5	11.8	39.6	29.4	12.0	4.4	2.8
Virginia	6.6	3.7	17.1	38.1	25.5	11.3	4.6	3.4
Virgin Islands	9.0	2.6	4.2	31.6	33.2	17.0	7.6	6.4
Washington	7.7	4.5	9.5	36.4	30.1	13.7	5.8	4.5
West Virginia	7.0	4.0	13.9	38.4	26.8	11.9	5.0	4.1
Wisconsin	6.7	3.8	17.2	37.9	25.5	11.0	4.6	3.9
Wyoming	6.9	3.5	14.0	37.2	28.1	12.6	4.8	3.3

¹ Excludes households with zero transactions.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-2—Average EBT Purchase Amount, and Distribution of Transactions by Dollar Amount, FY2003

	Average purchase amount	Dollar amount of EBT purchase transactions							
		< \$ 5	\$ 5-10	\$ 11-25	\$ 26-50	\$ 51-75	\$ 76-100	\$ 101-200	> \$ 200
		<i>Percent of transactions</i>							
Total U.S.	\$25.52	24.0%	23.4%	23.8%	14.4%	6.2%	3.3%	4.2%	0.7%
Alabama	28.08	21.0	21.7	24.8	16.0	7.2	3.7	4.7	0.8
Alaska	36.00	12.8	19.6	28.4	19.6	8.0	4.1	5.6	2.0
Arizona	25.70	23.4	23.6	23.9	14.7	6.2	3.3	4.1	0.7
Arkansas	26.65	21.6	22.8	24.9	15.5	6.8	3.5	4.3	0.7
California	26.21	20.7	23.3	25.8	15.8	6.4	3.4	4.1	0.6
Colorado	28.36	21.0	23.4	24.8	15.1	6.3	3.4	4.8	1.2
Connecticut	26.99	23.9	23.9	22.2	13.9	6.5	3.7	4.9	0.8
Delaware	29.98	18.3	21.2	25.6	17.1	7.6	4.1	5.1	0.9
District of Columbia	26.19	26.2	23.1	21.4	13.9	6.3	3.6	4.6	0.8
Florida	27.59	19.9	22.6	25.5	16.3	7.0	3.7	4.4	0.8
Georgia	29.25	21.4	21.6	24.2	15.7	7.0	3.9	5.2	1.0
Hawaii	20.60	26.6	26.2	24.6	12.7	4.7	2.2	2.5	0.5
Idaho	25.77	20.0	24.2	27.4	14.9	5.7	3.0	4.0	0.8
Illinois	24.57	27.1	22.7	22.2	13.9	6.2	3.3	4.0	0.6
Indiana	27.42	21.2	21.9	24.7	16.2	7.1	3.7	4.5	0.7
Iowa	24.13	23.5	23.4	24.9	15.0	6.1	3.2	3.5	0.5
Kansas	25.49	22.7	23.1	24.8	15.2	6.2	3.3	4.0	0.6
Kentucky	25.94	22.1	23.6	24.4	15.2	6.5	3.5	4.2	0.6
Louisiana	24.85	26.9	23.0	23.1	13.4	5.7	3.0	4.0	0.9
Maine	25.39	21.5	24.3	25.5	14.6	6.1	3.3	4.1	0.6
Maryland	25.87	28.1	21.9	21.3	13.8	6.1	3.5	4.5	0.9
Massachusetts	29.78	21.3	22.5	23.2	15.1	7.0	4.1	5.8	1.0
Michigan	25.94	24.6	22.3	23.3	15.0	6.4	3.5	4.2	0.7
Minnesota	29.64	19.7	23.1	24.8	15.5	6.7	3.8	5.3	1.2
Mississippi	26.40	24.4	21.9	23.1	15.2	6.9	3.5	4.4	0.7
Missouri	26.30	22.9	22.6	24.0	15.4	6.8	3.5	4.2	0.6
Montana	24.41	21.7	24.7	26.6	14.4	5.5	2.8	3.6	0.7
Nebraska	26.63	19.4	23.3	26.6	16.1	6.5	3.3	4.1	0.7
Nevada	26.89	24.3	22.3	23.7	14.7	6.2	3.2	4.4	1.0
New Hampshire	30.58	18.3	22.7	25.1	16.0	7.1	4.0	5.7	1.1
New Jersey	23.49	29.0	24.5	21.4	12.1	5.3	3.0	4.0	0.7
New Mexico	26.54	22.3	23.8	24.2	14.8	6.2	3.4	4.5	0.8
New York	20.33	29.9	27.3	22.4	10.3	4.1	2.3	3.1	0.6
North Carolina	28.51	20.1	21.3	25.3	16.7	7.3	3.9	4.8	0.8
North Dakota	26.36	16.7	23.8	28.5	16.9	6.5	3.3	3.8	0.6
Ohio	26.77	22.4	22.4	24.1	15.7	6.9	3.6	4.3	0.7
Oklahoma	23.67	28.9	23.5	21.6	13.0	5.4	2.9	3.9	0.8
Oregon	20.37	28.8	25.6	23.8	11.8	4.5	2.3	2.8	0.5
Pennsylvania	24.88	25.9	24.8	22.3	13.0	5.8	3.2	4.2	0.8
Rhode Island	24.66	25.1	24.2	22.5	13.9	6.2	3.4	4.1	0.5
South Carolina	29.61	18.0	21.2	26.0	17.5	7.5	4.0	5.1	0.8
South Dakota	25.95	19.9	24.6	26.4	15.3	6.0	3.1	3.9	0.8
Tennessee	27.10	21.1	22.4	24.7	16.0	7.1	3.7	4.4	0.6
Texas	26.50	23.9	22.5	23.4	15.2	6.3	3.4	4.4	0.8
Utah	26.03	21.0	23.2	26.3	15.5	6.0	3.1	4.0	0.8
Vermont	28.90	17.8	23.6	26.8	15.4	6.6	3.7	5.2	0.9
Virginia	27.09	22.2	22.4	24.4	15.6	6.7	3.5	4.5	0.8
Virgin Islands	38.76	16.9	20.8	24.1	15.6	7.8	4.4	7.7	2.8
Washington	22.13	23.9	25.0	26.3	13.7	5.1	2.6	2.9	0.5
West Virginia	25.42	22.8	23.4	24.2	15.1	6.4	3.4	4.1	0.5
Wisconsin	26.37	25.1	22.1	22.6	14.8	6.6	3.6	4.4	0.7
Wyoming	28.51	17.3	22.9	27.1	16.9	6.8	3.5	4.5	0.9

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-3—Distribution of EBT Purchase Transactions by Store Type, FY2003

	Distribution of EBT purchase transactions						
	Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- -ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Total U.S.	64.4%	8.0%	10.5%	7.8%	3.3%	3.3%	2.7%
Alabama	74.0	10.8	3.6	3.9	4.5	2.1	1.1
Alaska	58.6	9.3	5.0	2.0	5.0	0.4	19.7
Arizona	69.9	3.6	3.8	7.2	12.6	0.6	2.4
Arkansas	74.2	10.1	5.6	5.5	0.3	1.8	2.4
California	64.4	9.7	10.3	9.0	1.1	2.2	3.2
Colorado	71.2	6.4	3.0	14.4	0.4	1.3	3.3
Connecticut	53.3	6.9	23.9	11.1	1.3	1.9	1.7
Delaware	77.6	1.3	4.8	9.0	2.8	2.4	2.0
District of Columbia	48.6	9.7	16.4	10.4	0.2	12.5	2.1
Florida	73.5	7.7	6.0	4.1	3.4	3.3	2.0
Georgia	71.5	9.5	6.0	5.5	3.1	2.8	1.4
Hawaii	54.6	7.9	7.8	9.6	7.3	6.8	6.1
Idaho	79.4	6.9	2.8	5.3	1.0	1.7	2.9
Illinois	55.8	10.9	18.3	4.5	3.0	2.8	4.6
Indiana	74.2	7.0	4.0	3.8	6.7	1.4	2.8
Iowa	76.3	4.8	1.2	12.3	0.5	1.6	3.4
Kansas	75.5	7.4	1.2	12.2	0.2	1.7	1.8
Kentucky	64.2	10.3	7.0	11.3	4.0	0.9	2.2
Louisiana	59.9	8.9	13.7	8.5	0.4	5.1	3.5
Maine	61.0	13.4	4.1	12.4	4.3	1.7	3.1
Maryland	58.2	2.6	14.9	9.4	0.5	7.8	6.5
Massachusetts	61.8	5.4	11.6	14.8	1.1	2.5	2.8
Michigan	64.3	7.5	3.4	15.6	4.1	2.6	2.5
Minnesota	62.1	9.6	6.8	7.7	8.6	3.7	1.6
Mississippi	66.6	11.1	5.0	3.8	8.9	2.7	2.0
Missouri	70.4	8.8	4.8	3.2	9.2	1.6	2.1
Montana	67.6	11.9	3.1	10.2	2.2	2.1	3.0
Nebraska	76.1	10.9	2.0	0.8	4.4	3.8	1.9
Nevada	71.8	3.9	3.1	13.1	2.3	0.9	4.9
New Hampshire	73.4	5.6	2.6	10.4	5.8	0.7	1.6
New Jersey	44.7	7.8	35.7	5.3	0.2	3.2	3.2
New Mexico	65.9	7.0	4.2	14.7	3.1	1.4	3.7
New York	43.0	12.0	29.5	2.3	1.0	10.2	2.0
North Carolina	79.1	5.3	3.1	7.7	1.0	2.7	1.0
North Dakota	65.7	13.1	1.9	6.3	5.0	1.8	6.2
Ohio	69.7	7.1	7.8	7.2	3.7	2.6	1.9
Oklahoma	61.8	6.6	2.9	25.1	0.4	1.0	2.2
Oregon	66.4	4.6	4.7	17.2	1.1	1.3	4.7
Pennsylvania	55.4	5.5	21.8	6.8	3.8	3.0	3.8
Rhode Island	52.4	7.8	17.0	15.1	2.2	2.0	3.4
South Carolina	82.5	5.0	2.4	5.2	1.1	2.7	0.9
South Dakota	60.3	16.9	3.9	12.6	2.3	1.2	2.9
Tennessee	72.2	9.3	6.2	7.2	1.4	1.0	2.7
Texas	69.0	6.1	5.6	11.4	3.3	2.6	2.0
Utah	76.8	3.4	2.8	3.5	9.4	2.7	1.4
Vermont	67.3	7.0	6.5	7.7	5.9	0.4	5.3
Virginia	71.8	6.0	5.2	9.5	3.3	2.7	1.4
Virgin Islands	62.9	6.2	19.4	4.0	0.3	3.4	3.9
Washington	73.1	5.5	4.0	6.3	5.7	1.5	3.9
West Virginia	65.2	6.3	6.2	2.9	16.4	0.8	2.2
Wisconsin	66.1	6.6	12.2	4.9	6.2	0.8	3.2
Wyoming	79.0	6.7	1.2	10.1	0.7	1.1	1.2

Note: Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms; 20 store types were collapsed into the 7 categories shown in the table. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-4—Distribution of EBT Benefit Redemption by Store Type, FY2003

	Distribution of the dollar value of EBT redemption						
	Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- -ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Total U.S.	83.0%	5.8%	4.4%	1.8%	0.8%	2.4%	1.7%
Alabama	85.4	8.6	1.8	0.9	1.3	1.4	0.7
Alaska	60.1	11.0	4.0	0.8	3.3	0.5	20.3
Arizona	90.0	2.1	1.7	1.7	3.0	0.4	1.1
Arkansas	87.2	7.2	1.9	1.0	0.1	1.1	1.5
California	82.8	6.7	4.1	2.2	0.3	1.6	2.2
Colorado	86.2	4.8	1.4	2.9	0.1	1.1	3.6
Connecticut	75.3	7.1	11.1	3.6	0.3	1.6	1.0
Delaware	90.6	0.9	2.0	2.2	0.5	2.5	1.2
District of Columbia	71.2	5.5	4.2	2.3	0.0	16.0	0.8
Florida	85.0	6.0	3.0	1.0	0.7	3.0	1.3
Georgia	85.0	7.0	2.6	1.2	0.7	2.2	1.2
Hawaii	76.0	6.1	3.8	3.1	2.2	3.9	5.0
Idaho	90.7	4.0	1.2	1.0	0.3	0.9	1.9
Illinois	75.9	7.4	8.6	1.4	0.6	3.1	3.0
Indiana	88.9	5.0	1.9	0.9	1.2	0.8	1.3
Iowa	89.9	2.9	0.8	2.5	0.1	1.5	2.5
Kansas	89.2	5.2	0.5	2.3	0.1	0.8	1.9
Kentucky	81.8	9.0	3.3	2.6	1.3	0.5	1.4
Louisiana	82.0	6.0	4.6	2.0	0.1	3.5	1.9
Maine	82.0	8.6	1.8	3.2	1.1	1.6	1.7
Maryland	81.6	1.5	3.7	2.2	0.1	7.7	3.2
Massachusetts	83.9	3.6	4.5	3.9	0.2	2.6	1.4
Michigan	83.6	5.6	1.6	3.7	0.8	2.8	2.0
Minnesota	79.1	7.5	4.0	2.0	2.4	3.8	1.3
Mississippi	82.7	8.8	2.1	0.8	2.5	2.0	1.1
Missouri	86.6	6.3	1.8	1.0	1.9	1.1	1.3
Montana	83.3	8.6	1.7	2.3	0.7	1.3	2.0
Nebraska	87.2	7.1	0.8	0.2	0.9	2.7	1.2
Nevada	88.2	2.3	1.5	2.9	0.5	0.6	4.1
New Hampshire	90.5	3.3	0.8	2.3	1.2	0.6	1.4
New Jersey	73.0	6.5	13.6	1.8	0.0	3.1	2.0
New Mexico	86.1	4.7	1.7	3.1	0.8	0.8	3.0
New York	64.4	9.7	16.6	0.9	0.3	6.8	1.3
North Carolina	90.2	3.9	1.4	1.4	0.3	1.8	1.0
North Dakota	77.4	11.3	1.6	1.5	2.6	1.3	4.5
Ohio	88.4	3.9	2.3	1.5	0.8	2.3	0.8
Oklahoma	85.8	5.1	1.4	4.9	0.1	0.8	1.9
Oregon	86.6	3.1	1.9	3.8	0.3	1.0	3.3
Pennsylvania	81.0	3.8	7.1	1.9	0.9	3.3	1.9
Rhode Island	77.8	5.5	7.8	4.6	0.6	1.8	1.8
South Carolina	90.9	3.9	1.0	1.1	0.2	2.3	0.6
South Dakota	75.4	14.1	2.8	3.3	0.7	1.0	2.7
Tennessee	86.8	7.0	2.5	1.4	0.4	0.6	1.2
Texas	88.2	4.1	1.9	2.2	0.7	1.5	1.4
Utah	89.9	2.4	1.7	0.9	1.9	1.6	1.5
Vermont	84.3	6.1	2.7	1.9	1.4	0.4	3.2
Virginia	87.2	4.6	2.1	1.9	0.8	2.2	1.2
Virgin Islands	74.0	4.0	16.0	3.1	0.2	0.8	1.8
Washington	87.0	3.9	2.2	1.5	1.4	1.2	2.9
West Virginia	86.7	4.5	2.5	0.7	3.9	0.4	1.2
Wisconsin	87.3	4.4	4.0	1.2	1.1	0.7	1.4
Wyoming	91.3	3.9	0.5	2.0	0.1	0.7	1.5

Note: Retailers identify their store type on FNS application forms; 20 store types were collapsed into the 7 categories shown in the table. Retailers identified as supermarkets and small/medium groceries were reclassified based on reported gross sales as supermarkets (over \$2 million), large grocery (\$500k to \$2 million), and small grocery (under \$500k).

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-5—Average Monthly Number of EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household, Total and By Store Type, FY2003

	Average monthly number of transactions per household							
	Total	By store type						
		Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Total U.S.	7.6	4.9	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2
Alabama	7.6	5.6	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
Alaska	8.8	5.2	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.0	1.7
Arizona	8.8	6.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	1.1	0.1	0.2
Arkansas	7.7	5.7	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.2
California	8.1	5.2	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.3
Colorado	7.1	5.1	0.4	0.2	1.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Connecticut	5.8	3.1	0.4	1.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
Delaware	6.4	5.0	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1
District of Columbia	7.3	3.5	0.7	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.2
Florida	6.2	4.6	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Georgia	7.2	5.2	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1
Hawaii	12.8	7.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.8
Idaho	7.6	6.0	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Illinois	8.3	4.6	0.9	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4
Indiana	7.4	5.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.2
Iowa	7.7	5.9	0.4	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.1	0.3
Kansas	6.8	5.2	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.1
Kentucky	7.4	4.8	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.2
Louisiana	9.0	5.4	0.8	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.3
Maine	6.4	3.9	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.2
Maryland	7.3	4.3	0.2	1.1	0.7	0.0	0.6	0.5
Massachusetts	5.7	3.5	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.2
Michigan	7.1	4.6	0.5	0.2	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Minnesota	6.5	4.0	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.1
Mississippi	7.5	5.0	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.2
Missouri	7.4	5.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.2
Montana	8.1	5.5	1.0	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.2
Nebraska	6.7	5.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1
Nevada	7.4	5.3	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.4
New Hampshire	5.2	3.8	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.1
New Jersey	7.8	3.5	0.6	2.8	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.2
New Mexico	7.7	5.1	0.5	0.3	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.3
New York	9.3	4.0	1.1	2.8	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.2
North Carolina	7.0	5.5	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1
North Dakota	6.9	4.5	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.4
Ohio	7.1	5.0	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1
Oklahoma	8.5	5.3	0.6	0.2	2.1	0.0	0.1	0.2
Oregon	8.4	5.6	0.4	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.4
Pennsylvania	7.2	4.0	0.4	1.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3
Rhode Island	7.0	3.7	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.2
South Carolina	6.8	5.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1
South Dakota	8.1	4.9	1.4	0.3	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.2
Tennessee	7.1	5.1	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2
Texas	8.1	5.6	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2
Utah	8.1	6.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.1
Vermont	6.8	4.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.4
Virginia	6.6	4.7	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1
Virgin Islands	9.0	5.7	0.6	1.8	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.4
Washington	7.7	5.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.3
West Virginia	7.0	4.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	1.2	0.1	0.2
Wisconsin	6.7	4.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2
Wyoming	6.9	5.4	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.1

Note: See note on table B-4.
Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-6—Average EBT Purchase Amount per Transaction, Overall and By Store Type, FY2003

	Average EBT purchase amount							
	Overall	By store type						
		Super- markets	Large grocery	Small grocery	Conven- ience	Gas/ grocery	Specialty food	Other type
Total U.S.	\$25.52	\$32.81	\$18.45	\$10.55	\$5.91	\$6.09	\$18.70	\$16.35
Alabama	28.08	32.29	22.08	13.60	6.35	7.81	17.87	19.33
Alaska	36.00	36.65	41.05	26.87	13.39	23.27	43.79	35.93
Arizona	25.70	32.96	15.30	11.75	5.94	6.03	15.10	12.28
Arkansas	26.65	31.11	18.76	8.84	4.95	8.04	16.22	16.70
California	26.21	33.56	18.08	10.45	6.57	6.29	18.97	17.53
Colorado	28.36	34.19	21.09	12.73	5.61	7.64	23.93	30.58
Connecticut	26.99	37.79	27.44	12.08	8.44	5.88	22.06	15.50
Delaware	29.98	35.04	20.35	16.13	7.12	5.71	29.82	19.96
District of Columbia	26.19	38.13	14.74	6.60	5.78	4.49	33.16	10.52
Florida	27.59	31.82	21.28	13.99	6.87	5.38	25.17	17.35
Georgia	29.25	34.60	21.53	12.72	6.35	6.69	23.00	24.16
Hawaii	20.60	28.37	15.85	10.06	6.66	6.03	11.68	16.88
Idaho	25.77	29.30	14.74	10.49	5.03	8.49	13.94	16.76
Illinois	24.57	33.30	16.59	11.59	7.33	4.99	27.10	15.94
Indiana	27.42	32.67	19.61	12.85	6.32	4.85	14.95	12.65
Iowa	24.13	28.20	14.36	15.09	4.83	5.16	21.95	17.19
Kansas	25.49	29.93	17.80	10.99	4.77	8.27	11.65	26.63
Kentucky	25.94	32.95	22.60	12.39	5.93	8.55	13.85	16.26
Louisiana	24.85	33.80	16.67	8.35	5.70	6.52	16.91	13.47
Maine	25.39	34.01	15.98	11.13	6.53	6.19	23.97	13.73
Maryland	25.87	36.03	15.10	6.43	5.92	6.64	25.45	12.54
Massachusetts	29.78	40.27	19.95	11.40	7.82	5.37	29.46	14.67
Michigan	25.94	33.61	19.28	11.80	6.14	5.11	27.07	19.91
Minnesota	29.64	37.43	22.67	17.36	7.54	8.12	29.84	24.69
Mississippi	26.40	33.00	21.21	11.22	5.90	7.28	18.25	15.38
Missouri	26.30	32.09	18.83	10.15	7.77	5.37	18.18	16.44
Montana	24.41	29.91	17.42	13.18	5.37	8.05	15.11	16.83
Nebraska	26.63	30.41	17.21	10.83	4.94	5.21	18.79	16.06
Nevada	26.89	32.87	15.63	13.08	5.88	5.42	17.15	22.40
New Hampshire	30.58	37.60	17.64	9.79	6.73	6.08	25.41	25.71
New Jersey	23.49	38.06	19.24	8.73	7.92	5.72	22.00	14.59
New Mexico	26.54	34.53	17.52	10.60	5.60	6.41	14.89	19.26
New York	20.33	30.20	16.29	11.26	7.78	6.12	13.37	12.71
North Carolina	28.51	32.36	21.01	12.44	5.10	7.61	19.37	26.04
North Dakota	26.36	30.89	22.59	21.72	6.10	13.49	18.06	19.16
Ohio	26.77	33.82	14.78	8.01	5.41	5.89	23.82	10.72
Oklahoma	23.67	32.70	18.07	11.56	4.63	5.80	19.08	19.74
Oregon	20.37	26.44	13.56	8.13	4.51	5.32	16.08	14.27
Pennsylvania	24.88	36.22	17.25	8.13	6.89	6.15	27.24	12.39
Rhode Island	24.66	36.46	17.51	11.23	7.44	6.53	22.28	12.61
South Carolina	29.61	32.48	23.24	11.92	6.00	6.24	24.35	19.12
South Dakota	25.95	32.31	21.63	19.08	6.82	7.35	22.26	23.90
Tennessee	27.10	32.48	20.36	10.86	5.39	6.85	16.89	12.36
Texas	26.50	33.55	17.58	8.79	5.09	5.57	15.01	19.09
Utah	26.03	30.32	18.39	15.80	6.59	5.27	15.63	26.83
Vermont	28.90	36.08	25.24	11.74	7.26	6.60	30.34	17.38
Virginia	27.09	32.84	20.45	11.01	5.25	6.56	21.66	22.31
Virgin Islands	38.76	44.97	25.12	32.04	30.40	30.61	9.22	17.35
Washington	22.13	26.20	15.75	11.98	5.17	5.59	16.73	15.89
West Virginia	25.42	33.70	18.18	10.43	6.31	5.97	11.73	13.98
Wisconsin	26.37	34.65	17.55	8.54	6.16	4.85	22.45	11.36
Wyoming	28.51	32.96	16.56	12.28	5.54	5.51	17.45	36.47

Note: See note on table B-4.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-7—Average Number of Stores Accessed Per Household Per Month, and Distribution of Households by Number of Stores FY2003

	Avg monthly number of stores per household	Number of stores per household per month					
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six or more
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
Total U.S.	3.4	22.9%	21.2%	17.9%	13.3%	9.1%	15.6%
Alabama	3.4	19.4	21.0	19.5	14.9	10.1	15.1
Alaska	2.6	30.4	27.4	19.6	11.2	6.0	5.4
Arizona	3.8	17.8	20.1	18.1	14.0	10.1	20.0
Arkansas	3.1	22.5	23.0	20.2	14.5	9.1	10.6
California	3.6	17.8	20.5	18.9	14.7	10.4	17.7
Colorado	3.1	26.4	22.7	17.8	12.4	8.0	12.8
Connecticut	2.8	32.5	22.8	16.9	11.5	7.2	9.2
Delaware	2.8	26.8	25.6	19.1	12.5	7.1	8.9
District of Columbia	3.6	17.4	19.7	19.0	15.4	10.8	17.6
Florida	3.0	27.9	23.4	17.8	12.1	7.7	11.1
Georgia	3.3	21.2	21.7	19.3	14.4	9.6	13.8
Hawaii	5.4	11.1	13.4	13.8	12.8	10.8	38.1
Idaho	3.0	25.5	23.0	18.8	13.4	8.6	10.8
Illinois	3.9	16.6	18.3	17.7	14.6	11.0	21.8
Indiana	3.3	20.4	21.7	19.4	14.4	9.6	14.5
Iowa	3.1	22.6	24.1	20.4	13.8	8.3	10.7
Kansas	2.8	29.4	24.7	18.0	11.5	6.9	9.5
Kentucky	3.2	22.7	22.7	19.4	14.0	9.0	12.2
Louisiana	4.0	14.7	17.9	17.7	14.9	11.3	23.5
Maine	2.6	32.2	26.8	17.8	10.5	5.9	6.9
Maryland	3.5	24.5	20.2	16.4	12.2	8.5	18.2
Massachusetts	2.8	31.2	23.9	17.5	11.4	7.0	9.0
Michigan	3.4	24.4	21.3	17.3	12.6	8.5	15.8
Minnesota	2.8	32.0	24.0	17.0	11.0	6.6	9.4
Mississippi	3.3	22.9	20.6	18.0	14.0	9.7	14.8
Missouri	3.2	22.4	22.7	19.0	13.6	8.8	13.5
Montana	2.9	26.9	24.4	18.8	12.5	7.7	9.6
Nebraska	2.8	32.1	22.8	17.1	11.3	7.0	9.8
Nevada	3.1	25.3	23.0	18.0	12.6	8.3	12.9
New Hampshire	2.3	39.0	26.5	16.6	9.1	4.7	4.0
New Jersey	3.3	25.7	20.9	16.9	12.5	8.7	15.4
New Mexico	3.4	21.2	21.4	18.6	14.0	9.7	15.2
New York	3.9	20.2	18.4	16.6	13.2	9.6	22.0
North Carolina	3.2	23.9	21.8	18.6	13.8	9.2	12.7
North Dakota	2.6	32.4	24.7	17.6	11.7	6.8	6.8
Ohio	3.3	22.8	21.4	18.2	13.4	9.1	15.1
Oklahoma	3.4	25.2	20.4	16.5	12.3	8.6	17.2
Oregon	3.6	21.2	19.6	17.2	13.5	9.7	18.7
Pennsylvania	3.2	24.8	21.3	17.6	12.9	8.8	14.6
Rhode Island	3.4	25.9	18.8	16.1	12.7	9.3	17.2
South Carolina	3.1	22.7	22.6	19.8	14.5	9.2	11.2
South Dakota	3.0	27.0	22.6	18.2	12.8	8.3	11.0
Tennessee	3.2	23.8	21.1	18.4	13.6	9.0	14.0
Texas	3.5	22.7	20.9	17.4	13.0	9.1	17.0
Utah	3.4	21.7	21.6	18.4	13.8	9.3	15.2
Vermont	2.6	27.4	28.1	20.8	12.0	6.1	5.5
Virginia	3.0	29.8	22.2	16.8	11.6	7.6	12.1
Virgin Islands	4.0	11.0	16.9	19.7	17.7	13.0	21.6
Washington	3.4	20.7	21.3	18.5	14.0	9.6	15.8
West Virginia	3.0	25.7	23.7	19.0	12.8	8.0	10.8
Wisconsin	3.1	29.4	21.3	16.5	11.7	7.8	13.3
Wyoming	2.4	32.9	29.0	18.5	9.6	4.9	5.2

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-8—Percent of Households Shopping Exclusively at Different Store Types, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Percent of households shopping exclusively at			Percent never shopping at supermarkets
		Supermarkets	Grocery stores ¹	Convenience stores	
Total U.S.	8,466,608	46.5%	3.0%	0.4%	5.7%
Alabama	182,866	47.9	2.6	0.1	4.3
Alaska	17,297	56.1	3.5	0.2	16.0
Arizona	183,585	47.7	0.6	0.2	2.0
Arkansas	123,640	49.9	2.8	0.2	3.9
California	220,739	42.9	1.9	0.3	4.3
Colorado	83,532	52.1	2.9	0.8	5.1
Connecticut	88,150	44.4	8.3	1.2	13.1
Delaware	11,443	62.3	0.7	0.4	1.9
District of Columbia	38,308	26.1	2.6	0.5	8.9
Florida	482,533	56.4	2.8	0.2	5.0
Georgia	308,361	49.7	3.0	0.2	4.8
Hawaii	49,510	28.3	1.0	0.3	4.8
Idaho	32,452	57.0	2.2	0.3	3.2
Illinois	428,984	33.8	4.4	0.2	7.7
Indiana	198,184	53.7	1.8	0.2	3.1
Iowa	31,799	58.7	1.3	0.3	2.7
Kansas	67,170	57.4	3.3	0.5	5.7
Kentucky	209,885	43.5	3.6	0.4	5.8
Louisiana	254,497	33.2	2.1	0.3	3.9
Maine	54,528	51.0	3.9	0.6	7.3
Maryland	111,999	45.5	1.5	0.4	5.7
Massachusetts	124,201	50.9	3.2	1.2	7.5
Michigan	351,646	49.2	1.8	0.9	5.6
Minnesota	96,824	48.8	3.9	0.5	7.7
Mississippi	142,947	42.2	4.1	0.2	6.4
Missouri	243,648	50.0	2.8	0.2	4.6
Montana	28,876	47.6	3.4	0.3	6.9
Nebraska	41,611	59.0	4.6	0.1	6.5
Nevada	47,374	53.9	0.9	0.9	4.3
New Hampshire	20,798	64.9	1.8	1.3	5.2
New Jersey	155,115	37.7	6.8	0.4	11.0
New Mexico	74,256	41.8	1.7	0.7	4.4
New York	735,648	29.1	7.5	0.2	13.5
North Carolina	267,400	59.3	1.8	0.3	3.0
North Dakota	16,813	46.0	6.1	0.4	9.9
Ohio	367,801	52.0	1.6	0.3	2.9
Oklahoma	149,280	42.9	3.0	1.1	5.8
Oregon	179,255	44.1	1.1	0.7	3.4
Pennsylvania	365,835	44.0	3.4	0.4	7.2
Rhode Island	33,836	38.4	3.4	1.4	7.8
South Carolina	183,577	61.7	1.6	0.2	2.5
South Dakota	20,021	39.9	4.8	0.4	10.9
Tennessee	312,598	51.7	2.8	0.3	4.3
Texas	726,384	48.0	1.6	0.4	2.9
Utah	39,414	54.7	1.1	0.2	3.0
Vermont	13,649	50.8	2.4	0.5	5.0
Virginia	167,393	55.9	2.9	0.4	5.2
Virgin Islands	4,387	32.9	3.2	0.5	4.9
Washington	196,527	51.0	1.4	0.4	3.0
West Virginia	59,230	50.9	2.3	0.1	4.5
Wisconsin	110,849	54.6	2.7	0.3	5.0
Wyoming	9,955	62.2	2.3	0.4	3.6

¹ Grocery stores include large groceries and small/medium grocery stores
Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-9—Distribution of Households By Percent of Redemption at Supermarkets, FY2003

	Percent of benefits redeemed at supermarkets					
	Zero	1-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-99%	100%
	<i>Percent of households</i>					
Total U.S.	5.7%	2.9%	5.2%	10.5%	28.9%	46.5%
Alabama	4.3	2.4	4.7	10.2	30.1	47.9
Alaska	16.0	4.1	3.9	5.3	14.5	56.1
Arizona	2.0	0.9	2.4	8.4	38.0	47.7
Arkansas	3.9	2.0	3.9	9.0	31.0	49.9
California	4.3	2.8	5.9	12.6	31.2	42.9
Colorado	5.1	2.6	4.1	8.0	27.8	52.1
Connecticut	13.1	3.9	6.3	10.7	21.5	44.4
Delaware	1.8	1.0	2.5	7.5	24.7	62.3
District of Columbia	8.9	6.0	11.0	18.8	29.0	26.1
Florida	5.0	2.3	4.4	9.3	22.4	56.4
Georgia	4.8	2.8	5.0	9.9	27.4	49.6
Hawaii	4.8	5.9	8.7	15.6	36.3	28.3
Idaho	3.2	1.1	2.3	6.1	30.1	57.0
Illinois	7.7	4.7	8.4	14.6	30.5	33.8
Indiana	3.1	1.6	3.4	7.8	30.0	53.7
Iowa	2.7	1.2	2.8	7.2	27.0	58.7
Kansas	5.7	1.6	2.9	6.2	25.9	57.4
Kentucky	5.8	3.0	5.9	11.6	30.0	43.5
Louisiana	3.9	2.5	6.0	15.1	38.8	33.2
Maine	7.3	2.9	5.4	10.8	22.4	51.0
Maryland	5.7	2.9	6.4	13.0	26.1	45.5
Massachusetts	7.5	2.1	4.5	10.0	24.6	50.9
Michigan	5.6	2.6	5.0	10.1	27.2	49.2
Minnesota	7.7	3.5	6.3	10.0	23.4	48.8
Mississippi	6.2	2.9	5.4	10.9	31.4	42.4
Missouri	4.6	2.2	4.3	8.9	29.7	50.0
Montana	6.9	2.5	4.3	9.1	29.3	47.6
Nebraska	6.5	1.8	3.4	6.9	22.0	59.0
Nevada	4.3	1.8	3.5	8.4	27.5	53.9
New Hampshire	5.2	1.2	2.5	6.3	19.7	65.0
New Jersey	11.0	4.6	7.8	14.0	24.7	37.7
New Mexico	4.4	1.8	3.6	9.8	38.2	41.8
New York	13.5	8.8	10.4	14.8	23.2	29.1
North Carolina	3.0	1.4	3.0	7.2	25.7	59.3
North Dakota	9.9	3.4	5.7	10.5	24.4	46.0
Ohio	2.9	1.4	3.4	8.6	31.3	52.0
Oklahoma	5.8	2.0	3.8	9.3	35.8	43.0
Oregon	3.4	1.8	3.9	10.6	36.0	44.1
Pennsylvania	7.2	2.8	6.0	12.2	27.6	44.0
Rhode Island	7.8	3.2	6.8	14.3	29.2	38.4
South Carolina	2.5	1.3	2.7	6.7	24.6	61.7
South Dakota	10.9	3.8	6.4	11.5	27.3	39.9
Tennessee	4.3	2.1	4.2	8.8	28.5	51.7
Texas	2.9	1.3	3.1	9.2	35.0	48.0
Utah	3.0	1.3	3.0	7.4	30.4	54.7
Vermont	5.0	2.8	4.8	10.4	26.0	50.8
Virginia	5.2	1.8	3.8	8.2	24.8	55.9
Virgin Islands	4.9	4.1	9.0	15.8	32.8	32.9
Washington	3.0	2.0	4.1	9.2	30.4	51.0
West Virginia	4.5	1.6	3.7	9.3	29.8	50.9
Wisconsin	5.0	1.6	3.7	8.3	26.3	54.6
Wyoming	3.6	1.0	2.0	5.2	25.8	62.2

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-10—Total Monthly EBT Redemption Per Household, and Distribution of Households by Total Monthly Amount, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Monthly household redemption	Total monthly EBT redemption					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
			<i>Percent of households</i>					
Total U.S.	8,466,608	\$195	9.2%	7.4%	13.3%	30.5%	17.9%	21.7%
Alabama	182,866	212	7.4	7.6	13.1	26.0	19.5	26.5
Alaska	17,297	317	9.8	4.0	7.2	24.0	15.6	39.4
Arizona	183,585	225	5.3	4.5	10.9	32.3	19.9	27.2
Arkansas	123,640	205	9.6	8.2	11.7	27.1	18.5	24.9
California	220,739	212	4.0	3.0	10.0	37.4	23.9	21.8
Colorado	83,532	202	10.8	6.9	13.1	26.7	18.4	24.1
Connecticut	88,150	157	16.8	7.1	14.8	33.1	13.9	14.3
Delaware	11,443	193	8.3	6.6	14.7	31.0	18.8	20.7
District of Columbia	38,308	191	7.7	4.9	10.6	38.9	19.4	18.5
Florida	482,533	171	10.0	9.6	18.2	30.4	14.9	16.9
Georgia	308,361	211	8.4	7.1	12.2	27.8	18.9	25.7
Hawaii	49,510	263	2.8	2.6	9.8	33.4	20.5	31.0
Idaho	32,452	196	10.7	9.4	12.5	25.0	19.0	23.3
Illinois	428,984	203	7.6	7.0	14.3	30.5	17.2	23.4
Indiana	198,184	203	8.0	6.0	14.5	28.7	18.8	23.9
Iowa	31,799	186	8.9	7.4	15.5	30.1	18.4	19.7
Kansas	67,170	174	13.2	9.8	14.6	27.5	16.2	18.6
Kentucky	209,885	193	9.2	8.6	14.8	26.5	18.6	22.3
Louisiana	254,497	225	5.2	5.3	13.2	28.6	19.8	27.9
Maine	54,528	161	8.4	7.6	18.6	36.8	15.9	12.7
Maryland	111,999	189	10.2	7.6	13.4	31.1	17.2	20.4
Massachusetts	124,201	170	11.6	7.8	14.2	33.2	17.2	16.0
Michigan	351,646	185	11.0	6.4	15.3	31.3	16.4	19.7
Minnesota	96,824	193	14.2	7.2	9.4	25.0	19.7	24.5
Mississippi	142,947	199	10.9	13.6	11.2	22.0	17.4	24.9
Missouri	243,648	193	9.5	7.9	14.2	29.2	17.4	21.9
Montana	28,876	198	9.2	6.5	13.7	29.0	19.3	22.4
Nebraska	41,611	178	16.2	8.6	13.7	23.9	17.4	20.2
Nevada	47,374	199	9.3	7.6	16.0	27.9	16.2	23.0
New Hampshire	20,798	160	16.0	9.0	14.9	28.0	16.6	15.4
New Jersey	155,115	183	9.2	6.2	12.9	37.2	16.8	17.7
New Mexico	74,256	205	8.5	7.2	12.8	26.8	20.4	24.3
New York	735,648	189	7.3	4.7	9.7	43.7	17.6	17.0
North Carolina	267,400	199	10.4	8.7	13.2	25.1	18.7	23.9
North Dakota	16,813	181	11.8	6.1	15.2	30.5	17.6	18.9
Ohio	367,801	191	10.3	6.8	15.6	28.6	17.6	21.1
Oklahoma	149,280	202	14.7	7.2	10.9	23.0	18.3	25.9
Oregon	179,255	171	10.4	6.1	13.2	38.8	16.4	15.1
Pennsylvania	365,835	179	10.7	7.2	14.9	32.0	16.7	18.5
Rhode Island	33,836	172	14.2	5.5	12.2	33.5	18.3	16.2
South Carolina	183,577	201	7.3	11.8	10.5	27.0	19.4	24.0
South Dakota	20,021	210	9.5	7.0	13.6	26.6	17.6	25.6
Tennessee	312,598	192	11.4	7.5	12.8	28.5	18.2	21.6
Texas	726,384	215	7.2	10.7	11.5	24.3	19.0	27.4
Utah	39,414	210	9.1	6.5	12.2	27.9	19.7	24.6
Vermont	13,649	195	7.1	4.7	10.9	35.4	22.3	19.6
Virginia	167,393	178	14.2	9.9	14.5	24.8	16.5	20.1
Virgin Islands	4,387	350	1.4	1.4	5.9	27.6	12.6	51.1
Washington	196,527	170	6.7	4.8	21.4	36.3	16.1	14.6
West Virginia	59,230	177	9.9	9.6	16.3	27.4	18.1	18.8
Wisconsin	110,849	176	16.6	7.0	12.8	28.8	16.5	18.4
Wyoming	9,955	196	10.1	6.7	14.9	26.8	18.7	22.7

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-11—Average Number of EBT Transactions Per Month, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Average number of EBT purchase transactions						
		All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Total U.S.	8,466,608	7.6	1.7	2.8	4.3	6.9	9.4	13.5
Alabama	182,866	7.6	1.7	2.7	4.0	6.3	8.9	12.6
Alaska	17,297	8.8	1.5	2.3	3.5	6.2	7.8	14.3
Arizona	183,585	8.8	1.7	3.0	4.4	6.9	9.5	14.5
Arkansas	123,640	7.7	1.6	2.8	4.2	6.6	9.3	13.2
California	220,739	8.1	1.6	2.7	4.4	6.7	9.0	13.2
Colorado	83,532	7.1	1.6	2.7	4.2	6.3	8.5	12.3
Connecticut	88,150	5.8	1.6	2.6	3.7	5.8	8.2	12.2
Delaware	11,443	6.4	1.6	2.4	3.7	5.6	8.0	11.4
District of Columbia	38,308	7.3	1.9	3.1	4.5	7.0	8.3	11.8
Florida	482,533	6.2	1.6	2.6	3.8	6.0	8.3	12.0
Georgia	308,361	7.2	1.6	2.7	4.0	6.3	8.4	11.9
Hawaii	49,510	12.8	1.7	3.4	6.4	10.0	13.1	19.2
Idaho	32,452	7.6	1.7	2.8	4.3	6.7	9.4	13.6
Illinois	428,984	8.3	1.9	3.3	4.8	7.0	9.9	14.5
Indiana	198,184	7.4	1.7	2.7	4.1	6.4	8.9	12.6
Iowa	31,799	7.7	1.8	2.9	4.5	7.0	9.7	13.9
Kansas	67,170	6.8	1.7	2.8	4.2	6.6	9.1	13.0
Kentucky	209,885	7.4	1.6	2.7	4.0	6.4	9.4	13.6
Louisiana	254,497	9.0	1.8	3.1	4.7	7.3	10.0	14.6
Maine	54,528	6.4	1.6	2.6	4.2	6.5	8.4	11.6
Maryland	111,999	7.3	1.7	2.8	4.0	7.0	9.2	13.0
Massachusetts	124,201	5.7	1.6	2.5	3.7	5.5	7.4	10.8
Michigan	351,646	7.1	1.7	2.8	4.2	6.4	9.0	13.3
Minnesota	96,824	6.5	1.6	2.5	3.7	5.7	7.6	11.6
Mississippi	142,947	7.5	1.7	2.8	4.2	6.7	9.4	13.6
Missouri	243,648	7.4	1.7	2.8	4.2	6.6	9.1	13.1
Montana	28,876	8.1	1.7	2.7	4.4	7.2	9.9	14.2
Nebraska	41,611	6.7	1.6	2.6	4.0	6.4	8.8	12.9
Nevada	47,374	7.4	1.8	3.0	4.4	6.9	8.8	12.8
New Hampshire	20,798	5.2	1.5	2.4	3.6	5.4	7.1	10.0
New Jersey	155,115	7.8	1.7	2.8	4.2	7.1	9.9	14.7
New Mexico	74,256	7.7	1.6	2.8	4.2	6.4	9.1	13.5
New York	735,648	9.3	1.8	2.9	5.2	8.7	11.9	15.5
North Carolina	267,400	7.0	1.6	2.6	4.0	6.2	8.6	12.2
North Dakota	16,813	6.9	1.5	2.4	4.1	6.4	8.9	12.8
Ohio	367,801	7.1	1.6	2.8	4.1	6.4	8.9	13.1
Oklahoma	149,280	8.5	1.8	2.9	4.4	7.3	10.5	15.4
Oregon	179,255	8.4	1.7	3.1	5.1	8.6	10.7	15.1
Pennsylvania	365,835	7.2	1.7	2.9	4.3	6.7	9.2	13.5
Rhode Island	33,836	7.0	1.6	2.6	3.9	6.5	9.3	13.8
South Carolina	183,577	6.8	1.6	2.5	3.8	6.0	8.3	11.4
South Dakota	20,021	8.1	1.6	2.3	4.4	6.8	9.6	14.3
Tennessee	312,598	7.1	1.5	2.6	4.0	6.3	8.9	12.8
Texas	726,384	8.1	1.6	2.6	4.1	6.5	9.5	14.2
Utah	39,414	8.1	1.7	3.0	4.5	7.0	9.4	13.8
Vermont	13,649	6.8	1.6	2.5	3.8	6.3	8.0	10.8
Virginia	167,393	6.6	1.6	2.6	3.8	6.2	8.8	12.6
Virgin Islands	4,387	9.0	1.7	2.5	3.8	6.1	7.7	12.0
Washington	196,527	7.7	1.7	3.1	5.2	7.3	9.8	14.0
West Virginia	59,230	7.0	1.6	2.6	3.9	6.4	9.3	13.4
Wisconsin	110,849	6.7	1.6	2.7	4.2	6.5	8.7	13.0
Wyoming	9,955	6.9	1.4	2.5	3.9	5.9	8.4	12.4

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-12—Average Purchase Amount Per Transaction, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Average EBT purchase amount						
		All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Total U.S.	8,466,608	\$25.52	\$7.35	\$13.74	\$17.85	\$21.13	\$26.73	\$32.05
Alabama	182,866	28.08	7.52	13.96	18.72	23.04	27.97	33.75
Alaska	17,297	36.00	7.93	16.17	21.81	25.07	31.92	41.46
Arizona	183,585	25.70	6.73	12.95	17.23	20.69	26.08	30.26
Arkansas	123,640	26.65	7.47	13.37	17.85	21.90	26.82	32.30
California	220,739	26.21	7.03	14.00	17.97	21.82	27.33	31.20
Colorado	83,532	28.36	7.31	13.83	17.97	22.58	29.33	35.27
Connecticut	88,150	26.99	7.48	14.59	20.15	24.28	30.38	34.34
Delaware	11,443	29.98	7.87	15.68	20.45	25.51	30.92	37.10
District of Columbia	38,308	26.19	6.54	12.33	16.91	20.19	29.33	35.64
Florida	482,533	27.59	7.94	14.43	19.74	23.68	29.80	35.62
Georgia	308,361	29.25	7.62	14.00	18.97	22.93	29.45	36.32
Hawaii	49,510	20.60	6.40	11.02	12.64	14.55	17.92	26.33
Idaho	32,452	25.77	7.16	13.26	17.42	21.55	26.33	31.23
Illinois	428,984	24.57	6.37	11.50	15.73	20.24	25.10	30.48
Indiana	198,184	27.42	7.32	14.24	18.36	22.34	27.95	33.59
Iowa	31,799	24.13	7.02	12.98	16.59	20.48	25.58	29.78
Kansas	67,170	25.49	7.44	13.52	17.67	21.66	27.20	32.35
Kentucky	209,885	25.94	7.81	14.19	18.40	22.47	26.55	30.85
Louisiana	254,497	24.85	6.29	12.50	16.20	19.67	24.79	29.83
Maine	54,528	25.39	7.96	14.29	18.15	21.67	29.30	34.93
Maryland	111,999	25.87	7.16	13.47	18.58	20.34	27.15	33.38
Massachusetts	124,201	29.78	7.74	14.69	20.89	26.25	33.42	37.59
Michigan	351,646	25.94	7.08	13.54	18.29	22.22	27.50	32.04
Minnesota	96,824	29.64	7.65	14.65	20.16	24.67	30.90	35.33
Mississippi	142,947	26.40	6.62	13.70	17.67	21.65	26.48	32.22
Missouri	243,648	26.30	7.46	13.43	17.62	21.79	27.30	32.68
Montana	28,876	24.41	7.25	13.85	16.94	20.16	25.29	29.48
Nebraska	41,611	26.63	7.88	14.48	18.43	22.61	28.07	32.71
Nevada	47,374	26.89	6.60	12.76	16.81	20.65	28.35	34.99
New Hampshire	20,798	30.58	7.86	15.23	20.98	26.82	34.52	40.39
New Jersey	155,115	23.49	7.41	13.37	17.94	19.98	24.89	29.00
New Mexico	74,256	26.54	7.26	13.63	18.02	22.42	27.18	31.37
New York	735,648	20.33	7.05	12.50	14.86	16.36	20.80	27.84
North Carolina	267,400	28.51	7.77	14.26	18.95	23.22	28.97	35.13
North Dakota	16,813	26.36	8.16	15.59	18.70	22.23	27.99	32.62
Ohio	367,801	26.77	7.50	13.93	18.33	22.48	27.84	33.00
Oklahoma	149,280	23.67	7.05	12.79	16.90	19.74	23.72	27.77
Oregon	179,255	20.37	6.87	12.03	14.86	16.51	23.14	27.25
Pennsylvania	365,835	24.88	7.14	13.08	17.36	21.16	26.90	31.05
Rhode Island	33,836	24.66	7.45	14.60	19.40	22.40	26.59	28.85
South Carolina	183,577	29.61	8.00	14.47	20.11	24.02	30.10	36.49
South Dakota	20,021	25.95	7.70	16.24	17.50	20.92	25.81	31.06
Tennessee	312,598	27.10	8.04	14.30	19.06	22.69	27.83	33.15
Texas	726,384	26.50	7.20	14.67	18.48	22.29	26.28	30.73
Utah	39,414	26.03	6.82	12.82	16.95	20.96	26.52	31.79
Vermont	13,649	28.90	7.69	15.36	20.11	23.37	30.79	36.71
Virginia	167,393	27.09	7.89	14.48	19.54	23.04	28.21	33.60
Virgin Islands	4,387	38.76	6.21	15.59	20.59	25.48	32.63	44.30
Washington	196,527	22.13	6.87	12.46	14.78	19.13	25.23	29.14
West Virginia	59,230	25.42	8.22	14.38	19.06	22.41	26.68	30.47
Wisconsin	110,849	26.37	7.38	13.76	18.39	22.18	28.49	33.24
Wyoming	9,955	28.51	7.95	15.09	19.48	24.16	29.58	34.12

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-13—Average Percent of Benefits Redeemed At Supermarkets, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Average percent of benefits redeemed at supermarkets ¹						
		All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Total U.S.	8,466,608	83.0%	77.4%	82.5%	83.8%	81.1%	84.2%	83.4%
Alabama	182,866	85.4	78.7	82.2	84.0	84.6	86.3	85.6
Alaska	17,297	60.1	86.7	83.7	82.2	86.5	76.5	52.3
Arizona	183,585	90.0	81.5	88.0	90.1	89.9	90.9	89.7
Arkansas	123,640	87.2	81.0	85.0	86.2	86.3	87.6	87.5
California	220,739	82.8	76.4	81.1	80.9	82.0	83.8	82.8
Colorado	83,532	86.2	76.9	83.8	85.0	85.7	86.7	86.4
Connecticut	88,150	75.3	67.0	74.9	78.0	72.9	78.1	75.5
Delaware	11,443	90.6	89.3	90.9	91.7	91.0	91.2	90.1
District of Columbia	38,308	71.2	58.9	66.3	69.7	68.6	72.9	72.3
Florida	482,533	85.0	81.8	85.0	86.6	84.6	86.0	84.5
Georgia	308,361	85.0	78.8	81.5	83.4	83.2	85.8	85.6
Hawaii	49,510	76.0	72.5	79.1	78.1	74.3	73.8	77.0
Idaho	32,452	90.7	84.3	88.7	89.7	90.8	91.1	90.6
Illinois	428,984	75.9	69.4	74.8	75.7	73.7	77.5	76.4
Indiana	198,184	88.9	82.9	87.3	89.0	88.3	89.6	88.9
Iowa	31,799	89.9	85.8	88.2	90.7	90.2	90.6	89.2
Kansas	67,170	89.2	80.0	83.4	85.9	88.3	90.0	90.2
Kentucky	209,885	81.8	75.6	80.8	81.7	81.5	82.6	81.7
Louisiana	254,497	82.0	71.9	79.6	81.6	80.8	83.1	82.0
Maine	54,528	82.0	74.0	79.4	81.3	80.8	83.5	82.6
Maryland	111,999	81.6	77.5	80.3	81.6	79.6	82.3	82.3
Massachusetts	124,201	83.9	70.7	80.6	83.6	83.6	85.5	83.5
Michigan	351,646	83.6	78.6	82.1	84.2	83.1	85.4	83.2
Minnesota	96,824	79.1	73.4	80.4	82.6	81.4	83.1	76.3
Mississippi	142,947	82.7	75.0	78.8	81.6	81.7	83.2	83.2
Missouri	243,648	86.6	78.9	83.2	85.0	85.6	87.5	87.0
Montana	28,876	83.3	76.4	79.2	83.1	83.5	84.3	82.9
Nebraska	41,611	87.2	79.4	83.1	85.0	86.6	89.0	87.2
Nevada	47,374	88.2	81.8	85.6	86.4	85.3	89.0	89.4
New Hampshire	20,798	90.5	81.5	87.3	88.8	89.3	91.8	91.2
New Jersey	155,115	73.0	69.2	74.9	76.4	70.9	74.8	73.1
New Mexico	74,256	86.1	78.6	84.2	85.7	85.7	86.5	86.2
New York	735,648	64.4	62.0	65.6	71.2	62.8	65.8	64.4
North Carolina	267,400	90.2	84.7	88.0	89.1	89.6	90.9	90.3
North Dakota	16,813	77.4	74.8	77.7	77.2	78.2	79.5	75.8
Ohio	367,801	88.4	84.3	87.5	89.3	88.6	89.3	87.8
Oklahoma	149,280	85.8	76.6	82.2	84.9	85.1	86.5	86.1
Oregon	179,255	86.6	80.2	85.0	86.8	85.0	87.9	87.2
Pennsylvania	365,835	81.0	72.5	79.2	81.9	79.3	82.5	81.4
Rhode Island	33,836	77.8	72.3	77.0	79.6	77.6	79.6	76.7
South Carolina	183,577	90.9	87.3	88.2	90.7	90.1	91.5	91.1
South Dakota	20,021	75.4	71.9	62.4	75.9	77.9	78.4	73.6
Tennessee	312,598	86.8	81.1	84.8	85.6	85.9	87.5	87.2
Texas	726,384	88.2	82.3	88.1	88.6	88.5	88.8	87.9
Utah	39,414	89.9	84.1	87.9	88.7	88.6	90.7	90.3
Vermont	13,649	84.3	74.5	82.1	84.0	83.8	85.0	84.4
Virginia	167,393	87.2	81.4	84.4	85.9	86.4	88.2	87.6
Virgin Islands	4,387	74.0	75.7	77.7	84.8	77.5	83.2	72.2
Washington	196,527	87.0	83.6	86.4	85.6	87.1	88.4	86.3
West Virginia	59,230	86.7	80.7	85.1	87.1	86.4	87.2	86.8
Wisconsin	110,849	87.3	82.2	85.2	86.8	86.8	88.7	87.1
Wyoming	9,955	91.3	86.5	88.7	90.0	90.4	92.2	91.6

¹ Percents are calculated as (supermarket redemption) / (total monthly redemption).

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-14—Percent of Households with No Supermarket Redemption, for Households Grouped by Total Monthly Redemption, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Percent of households with no supermarket redemption						
		All households	Households grouped by total monthly redemption					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Total U.S.	8,466,608	5.7%	20.8%	10.4%	6.3%	5.1%	2.0%	1.2%
Alabama	182,866	4.3	19.0	10.6	6.6	3.3	1.2	0.6
Alaska	17,297	16.0	13.1	12.5	13.0	6.7	15.2	23.5
Arizona	183,585	2.0	18.5	5.5	2.4	1.2	0.4	0.2
Arkansas	123,640	3.9	16.8	8.1	4.9	2.5	1.1	0.6
California	220,739	4.3	23.8	10.8	7.2	4.6	1.7	0.9
Colorado	83,532	5.1	21.8	9.5	5.8	3.1	1.5	0.8
Connecticut	88,150	13.1	30.8	17.7	11.6	11.7	4.6	3.0
Delaware	11,443	1.9	9.0	4.2	2.5	1.2	0.3	0.2
District of Columbia	38,308	8.9	36.9	20.8	12.8	7.5	2.8	1.3
Florida	482,533	5.0	16.8	8.7	5.2	4.0	1.3	0.7
Georgia	308,361	4.8	19.2	11.1	6.7	3.9	1.5	0.8
Hawaii	49,510	4.8	29.2	10.2	6.2	5.2	4.2	1.6
Idaho	32,452	3.2	14.0	6.2	3.5	1.6	0.8	0.5
Illinois	428,984	7.7	27.6	14.2	9.8	7.7	2.8	1.4
Indiana	198,184	3.1	15.3	6.7	3.6	2.3	0.9	0.5
Iowa	31,799	2.7	11.5	6.7	2.9	1.6	0.8	0.4
Kansas	67,170	5.7	17.6	10.9	6.8	3.3	1.6	0.8
Kentucky	209,885	5.8	22.4	11.4	7.2	4.2	1.8	1.0
Louisiana	254,497	3.9	26.3	10.3	5.7	3.2	1.0	0.5
Maine	54,528	7.3	24.7	13.7	8.5	5.5	2.4	1.3
Maryland	111,999	5.7	20.7	11.3	8.0	4.4	1.3	0.5
Massachusetts	124,201	7.5	28.3	13.0	7.4	5.0	1.8	1.0
Michigan	351,646	5.6	19.3	10.2	6.1	4.6	1.6	1.0
Minnesota	96,824	7.7	25.4	13.4	8.3	6.0	2.5	1.5
Mississippi	142,947	6.4	23.1	12.6	7.1	3.8	1.7	0.9
Missouri	243,648	4.6	18.8	9.7	5.6	2.9	1.2	0.7
Montana	28,876	6.9	23.0	15.5	8.4	5.4	3.2	2.3
Nebraska	41,611	6.5	18.7	11.8	7.6	4.2	1.5	0.9
Nevada	47,374	4.3	16.7	7.6	4.9	4.0	1.1	0.3
New Hampshire	20,798	5.2	17.5	7.5	4.8	3.1	0.7	0.4
New Jersey	155,115	11.0	29.8	16.6	11.7	11.5	5.0	3.3
New Mexico	74,256	4.4	21.4	8.7	5.0	3.1	1.4	0.8
New York	735,648	13.5	35.1	25.8	13.8	13.6	7.6	6.2
North Carolina	267,400	3.0	13.6	6.4	3.5	1.6	0.5	0.2
North Dakota	16,813	9.9	23.2	16.7	14.0	8.4	4.4	3.5
Ohio	367,801	2.9	13.6	6.0	3.1	1.7	0.6	0.3
Oklahoma	149,280	5.8	21.2	10.3	5.8	3.4	1.5	0.9
Oregon	179,255	3.4	17.0	6.9	3.2	1.7	0.5	0.2
Pennsylvania	365,835	7.2	25.9	12.7	7.4	5.9	1.9	1.0
Rhode Island	33,836	7.8	25.5	14.3	7.9	5.7	2.0	1.2
South Carolina	183,577	2.5	11.4	6.6	2.9	1.5	0.6	0.3
South Dakota	20,021	10.9	26.4	32.7	15.3	8.3	5.0	3.8
Tennessee	312,598	4.3	16.8	8.5	5.2	2.7	1.0	0.5
Texas	726,384	2.9	17.4	6.2	3.5	1.7	0.7	0.3
Utah	39,414	3.0	14.8	5.8	3.5	2.3	0.6	0.3
Vermont	13,649	5.0	23.9	11.1	6.6	3.9	1.9	1.3
Virginia	167,393	5.2	16.9	9.6	5.8	3.0	0.9	0.4
Virgin Islands	4,387	4.9	28.1	16.2	6.5	9.1	3.0	2.0
Washington	196,527	3.0	15.3	6.0	3.9	1.9	0.7	0.4
West Virginia	59,230	4.5	17.4	8.9	4.9	2.7	1.2	0.6
Wisconsin	110,849	5.0	17.4	8.5	4.5	2.4	1.0	0.5
Wyoming	9,955	3.6	12.2	6.7	4.6	3.0	1.2	0.8

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-15—EBT Transactions and Redemption at Out-of-State Retailers, FY2003

	Average monthly out-of-state EBT redemption ¹				Households with any out-of-state transactions	
	Number of transactions		Dollars redeemed		Percent of all households	Avg % of dollars redeemed out-of-state
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent		
Total U.S.	882,471	1.4%	\$30,701,968	1.9%	3.39%	51.0%
Alabama	26,265	1.9	872,649	2.2	4.90	43.0
Alaska	900	0.6	78,440	1.4	1.62	61.1
Arizona	32,163	2.0	1,183,260	2.8	4.37	54.4
Arkansas	18,776	2.0	614,597	2.4	5.08	45.7
California	5,853	0.3	159,464	0.3	0.60	56.0
Colorado	5,119	0.8	153,101	0.9	1.50	59.1
Connecticut	7,225	1.4	226,279	1.6	2.83	51.1
Delaware	1,960	2.8	61,442	2.8	6.50	40.4
District of Columbia	68,409	24.4	2,918,987	39.9	56.84	63.8
Florida	26,699	0.9	783,312	1.0	1.50	59.3
Georgia	44,891	2.0	1,433,023	2.2	4.31	47.8
Hawaii	1,072	0.2	29,142	0.2	0.44	69.8
Idaho	8,781	3.5	251,837	4.0	7.78	50.3
Illinois	25,288	0.7	1,150,078	1.3	2.39	49.0
Indiana	19,442	1.3	634,828	1.6	3.09	45.4
Iowa	2,458	1.0	74,125	1.2	2.74	39.2
Kansas	9,386	2.0	321,592	2.7	4.54	53.0
Kentucky	28,356	1.8	929,719	2.3	4.52	46.1
Louisiana	12,975	0.6	513,577	0.9	1.82	45.4
Maine	7,261	2.5	280,783	3.8	4.99	67.0
Maryland	12,662	1.5	424,570	2.0	4.10	41.5
Massachusetts	13,799	1.9	538,899	2.5	4.42	52.8
Michigan	19,958	0.8	672,191	1.0	1.82	53.2
Minnesota	9,436	1.5	314,653	1.7	2.89	54.0
Mississippi	23,288	2.2	652,756	2.3	5.75	41.6
Missouri	32,287	1.8	1,054,344	2.2	4.56	46.6
Montana	4,278	1.8	131,158	2.3	3.57	56.3
Nebraska	7,148	2.6	307,898	4.1	7.31	46.5
Nevada	4,585	1.3	132,095	1.4	2.27	60.4
New Hampshire	2,654	2.4	86,799	2.6	4.95	46.7
New Jersey	13,992	1.2	457,511	1.6	3.10	48.5
New Mexico	24,709	4.3	843,961	5.5	7.36	66.6
New York	41,447	0.6	1,397,862	1.0	1.77	54.1
North Carolina	27,539	1.5	868,385	1.6	3.44	44.5
North Dakota	2,779	2.4	77,498	2.5	6.22	39.2
Ohio	7,065	0.3	275,992	0.4	0.98	38.1
Oklahoma	18,236	1.4	665,969	2.2	3.60	55.0
Oregon	18,337	1.2	454,353	1.5	2.86	49.6
Pennsylvania	26,568	1.0	912,851	1.4	2.65	47.6
Rhode Island	8,942	3.8	373,260	6.4	12.53	48.5
South Carolina	18,677	1.5	593,392	1.6	3.11	47.0
South Dakota	6,406	4.0	343,783	8.2	11.61	49.0
Tennessee	76,953	3.4	2,817,286	4.7	8.74	49.1
Texas	16,405	0.3	624,804	0.4	0.65	53.1
Utah	8,115	2.5	269,994	3.3	3.72	63.4
Vermont	6,903	7.5	293,761	11.0	17.36	60.2
Virginia	19,330	1.8	627,200	2.1	4.02	48.2
Virgin Islands	248	0.6	8,316	0.5	1.03	68.9
Washington	24,122	1.6	627,224	1.9	3.78	47.8
West Virginia	25,550	6.7	945,960	9.6	14.66	63.1
Wisconsin	6,677	0.9	230,703	1.2	2.03	51.7
Wyoming	99	0.1	6,304	0.3	0.60	44.0

¹ Table shows the percent of transactions and redemption by in-state households at out-of-state retailers. Households may cross State boundaries when redeeming benefits.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-16—Average Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed By Days Since Issuance, FY2003

	Avg monthly redemption (thousands)	Cumulative percent of monthly benefit redeemed by ¹				
		Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	End of month
Total U.S.	\$1,649,522	20.4%	59.5%	79.8%	90.8%	97.3%
Alabama	38,814	29.2	68.0	85.8	94.2	98.4
Alaska	5,484	17.5	55.0	76.7	88.8	96.4
Arizona	41,382	21.1	58.8	79.8	91.3	97.5
Arkansas	25,327	26.5	63.2	82.9	92.7	97.7
California	46,748	16.6	56.0	79.1	91.0	97.3
Colorado	16,912	19.3	56.5	77.4	89.5	96.6
Connecticut	13,827	21.6	64.3	83.3	92.6	97.8
Delaware	2,202	21.6	58.8	79.4	90.4	97.2
District of Columbia	7,314	15.7	58.1	81.6	92.1	97.7
Florida	82,371	19.2	57.0	78.8	90.5	97.1
Georgia	65,030	27.3	66.8	84.9	93.8	98.1
Hawaii	13,008	11.8	50.6	73.7	87.0	96.4
Idaho	6,367	19.0	56.4	77.1	89.4	96.8
Illinois	87,312	19.8	58.6	78.2	89.5	97.0
Indiana	40,300	19.0	56.5	78.8	90.5	97.1
Iowa	5,889	16.9	54.5	76.7	88.6	96.5
Kansas	11,683	23.5	61.1	80.8	91.5	97.3
Kentucky	40,508	20.7	58.9	80.4	91.4	97.5
Louisiana	57,175	22.0	57.4	73.2	85.7	97.0
Maine	8,710	19.2	58.2	79.3	90.3	96.6
Maryland	21,211	24.8	65.3	83.4	92.8	98.0
Massachusetts	21,097	23.9	63.9	82.8	92.5	97.7
Michigan	65,074	24.1	62.4	81.4	91.9	97.5
Minnesota	18,673	20.0	57.5	79.2	90.7	97.0
Mississippi	28,415	30.2	69.8	86.5	94.0	97.9
Missouri	47,133	20.9	57.6	79.2	90.9	97.3
Montana	5,710	20.0	58.6	79.0	90.3	96.7
Nebraska	7,419	17.4	54.9	76.6	89.1	96.7
Nevada	9,436	9.2	37.4	60.6	78.7	94.4
New Hampshire	3,324	24.5	59.4	79.4	90.7	97.1
New Jersey	28,338	18.2	59.7	80.3	91.1	97.7
New Mexico	15,238	16.0	56.0	78.4	90.8	97.3
New York	138,793	13.2	56.7	78.3	90.1	96.8
North Carolina	53,231	24.2	62.4	82.1	92.4	97.7
North Dakota	3,051	19.5	55.2	75.7	87.9	96.0
Ohio	70,234	17.9	57.0	77.8	89.7	96.7
Oklahoma	30,157	18.4	58.4	78.8	90.5	97.5
Oregon	30,626	19.8	58.2	79.4	91.0	97.5
Pennsylvania	65,386	8.3	60.4	81.7	92.2	97.3
Rhode Island	5,806	20.8	61.0	80.9	91.4	97.3
South Carolina	36,831	26.8	66.1	84.0	93.3	98.0
South Dakota	4,203	24.4	61.5	81.3	91.6	97.1
Tennessee	60,000	20.2	59.2	80.0	91.2	97.4
Texas	156,221	24.3	60.3	79.6	90.4	97.1
Utah	8,288	19.6	54.3	77.1	89.7	97.0
Vermont	2,663	21.8	59.0	79.0	90.1	96.9
Virginia	29,763	20.8	59.1	79.0	90.2	97.2
Virgin Islands	1,537	25.8	65.1	82.7	91.9	97.6
Washington	33,312	17.9	57.4	78.9	90.5	97.1
West Virginia	10,563	21.0	59.7	80.4	91.6	97.6
Wisconsin	19,477	20.8	58.0	79.3	90.4	96.7
Wyoming	1,951	17.9	54.3	75.6	88.4	96.5

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware and Iowa, which may have resulted in less precise estimates.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-17—Distribution of Households by Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed in the First Week After Issuance, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Percent of benefits redeemed in first week after issuance ¹					
		< 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	91-100%
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
Total U.S.	8,466,608	14.6%	6.4%	16.0%	19.3%	13.0%	30.8%
Alabama	182,866	9.1	4.0	12.8	20.0	15.6	38.5
Alaska	17,297	17.4	6.9	18.0	20.6	12.3	25.0
Arizona	183,585	11.3	6.4	19.2	23.2	14.0	26.1
Arkansas	123,640	12.2	5.0	14.3	20.3	14.8	33.6
California	220,739	13.0	8.2	19.6	20.9	12.4	26.0
Colorado	83,532	16.3	6.5	16.8	20.3	13.2	27.1
Connecticut	88,150	16.9	5.1	12.2	15.8	11.5	38.6
Delaware	11,443	10.6	7.7	18.9	20.9	13.4	28.6
District of Columbia	38,308	18.0	6.5	13.6	17.1	12.3	32.7
Florida	482,533	18.2	6.2	14.8	17.7	12.1	31.1
Georgia	308,361	10.3	4.6	13.1	19.6	15.0	37.5
Hawaii	49,510	12.0	12.2	26.2	21.9	10.9	17.0
Idaho	32,452	14.0	6.8	18.8	21.9	13.6	25.0
Illinois	428,984	15.4	6.9	15.6	17.7	12.0	32.6
Indiana	198,184	14.8	7.0	17.3	20.8	13.4	26.8
Iowa	31,799	12.1	8.2	15.7	16.4	8.8	39.0
Kansas	67,170	13.2	5.8	16.0	20.3	14.0	30.9
Kentucky	209,885	14.1	5.5	15.8	20.4	14.0	30.4
Louisiana	254,497	20.1	8.1	14.6	17.3	13.0	27.2
Maine	54,528	13.3	7.8	18.4	20.2	13.2	27.3
Maryland	111,999	12.9	5.0	13.0	18.3	13.5	37.4
Massachusetts	124,201	13.6	5.0	13.8	18.1	13.0	36.6
Michigan	351,646	14.4	5.7	14.6	18.6	12.9	34.0
Minnesota	96,824	17.1	6.5	15.4	18.4	12.3	30.4
Mississippi	142,947	8.9	4.2	12.1	18.2	15.3	41.3
Missouri	243,648	15.6	6.3	14.9	18.5	13.2	31.6
Montana	28,876	13.6	7.3	18.9	21.4	13.2	25.8
Nebraska	41,611	18.7	6.7	17.4	19.0	11.9	26.3
Nevada	47,374	38.8	10.6	14.9	12.5	7.3	16.3
New Hampshire	20,798	16.8	5.4	16.0	19.7	12.6	29.7
New Jersey	155,115	15.2	6.8	16.0	18.0	11.6	32.5
New Mexico	74,256	16.7	6.4	15.4	19.9	13.6	28.1
New York	735,648	14.6	9.4	18.8	17.3	10.3	29.7
North Carolina	267,400	14.0	4.9	15.0	20.4	14.4	31.4
North Dakota	16,813	16.9	8.2	20.0	20.5	12.1	22.5
Ohio	367,801	16.5	6.2	16.5	19.7	12.7	28.5
Oklahoma	149,280	16.6	5.8	17.3	21.3	13.4	25.8
Oregon	179,255	14.3	6.8	18.2	21.3	13.2	26.4
Pennsylvania	365,835	14.5	7.0	15.8	18.1	12.8	31.9
Rhode Island	33,836	16.6	5.9	15.2	18.5	12.4	31.6
South Carolina	183,577	10.2	4.3	14.0	21.0	15.6	35.0
South Dakota	20,021	14.1	6.8	17.0	19.7	13.1	29.5
Tennessee	312,598	14.8	5.6	16.1	20.5	13.5	29.6
Texas	726,384	12.7	5.4	16.3	21.1	14.2	30.4
Utah	39,414	15.7	7.6	18.0	20.8	13.0	25.1
Vermont	13,649	13.5	6.5	18.1	21.2	13.5	27.4
Virginia	167,393	17.8	5.3	15.4	19.4	13.3	28.8
Virgin Islands	4,387	12.2	6.7	14.8	19.4	14.2	33.0
Washington	196,527	14.0	7.4	18.4	20.6	13.1	26.6
West Virginia	59,230	13.7	6.2	16.8	20.5	13.9	29.0
Wisconsin	110,849	18.3	5.6	13.6	16.7	12.0	33.9
Wyoming	9,955	18.8	6.6	17.9	20.7	12.7	23.4

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware and Iowa, which may have resulted in less precise estimates.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-18—Distribution of Households by Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed in Two Weeks After Issuance, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Percent of benefits redeemed in two weeks after issuance ¹					
		< 10%	10-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	91-100%
		<i>Percent of households</i>					
Total U.S.	8,466,608	5.1%	1.8%	7.0%	15.1%	14.7%	56.4%
Alabama	182,866	2.3	1.0	4.4	12.3	14.4	65.6
Alaska	17,297	7.8	2.0	7.7	16.2	15.3	51.0
Arizona	183,585	3.9	1.6	7.1	17.3	16.6	53.5
Arkansas	123,640	3.4	1.2	5.6	14.2	15.4	60.2
California	220,739	3.2	1.9	8.2	17.4	15.4	54.0
Colorado	83,532	6.2	2.0	7.4	16.2	15.7	52.6
Connecticut	88,150	6.4	1.5	5.4	11.4	12.0	63.3
Delaware	11,443	3.2	2.0	7.4	17.8	15.7	53.9
District of Columbia	38,308	4.7	2.0	6.3	13.2	13.7	60.2
Florida	482,533	5.6	1.9	7.1	14.8	14.0	56.6
Georgia	308,361	3.1	1.2	4.8	12.3	14.3	64.4
Hawaii	49,510	3.7	3.0	12.5	23.1	16.8	41.0
Idaho	32,452	5.3	1.7	7.9	18.2	17.2	49.7
Illinois	428,984	5.5	2.2	7.4	14.8	13.7	56.5
Indiana	198,184	4.2	1.9	7.9	17.2	16.3	52.6
Iowa	31,799	3.0	2.2	8.2	14.4	11.8	60.5
Kansas	67,170	4.5	1.6	6.7	15.5	15.6	56.1
Kentucky	209,885	4.0	1.4	6.6	15.9	16.0	56.2
Louisiana	254,497	13.5	4.4	8.0	12.5	12.6	49.2
Maine	54,528	3.4	2.2	8.9	16.9	15.1	53.6
Maryland	111,999	4.6	1.5	5.3	11.8	13.2	63.6
Massachusetts	124,201	4.4	1.4	5.8	13.0	13.3	62.2
Michigan	351,646	5.2	1.6	6.5	13.9	14.0	58.9
Minnesota	96,824	5.0	2.0	7.5	15.2	14.7	55.6
Mississippi	142,947	2.4	1.1	4.5	11.3	13.6	67.0
Missouri	243,648	4.4	2.1	7.3	14.7	14.6	57.0
Montana	28,876	4.8	2.0	8.2	17.5	16.3	51.1
Nebraska	41,611	7.4	1.9	8.1	16.4	14.9	51.3
Nevada	47,374	19.2	5.9	12.3	15.3	11.3	36.3
New Hampshire	20,798	6.3	1.6	7.0	15.6	15.0	54.5
New Jersey	155,115	5.4	1.8	6.8	14.6	13.6	57.9
New Mexico	74,256	5.0	2.0	7.3	15.6	15.7	54.4
New York	735,648	4.4	2.3	9.0	17.3	13.3	53.7
North Carolina	267,400	5.1	1.3	5.8	14.2	15.4	58.1
North Dakota	16,813	6.8	2.4	10.5	19.2	15.7	45.5
Ohio	367,801	5.9	1.9	7.3	15.7	15.0	54.2
Oklahoma	149,280	6.8	1.7	7.1	16.8	16.7	51.0
Oregon	179,255	5.1	1.8	7.6	17.0	16.0	52.6
Pennsylvania	365,835	4.1	1.7	6.6	14.4	14.2	59.0
Rhode Island	33,836	6.4	1.7	6.7	14.3	13.7	57.3
South Carolina	183,577	3.3	1.1	5.0	13.4	15.8	61.4
South Dakota	20,021	4.2	2.0	8.1	15.6	14.4	55.9
Tennessee	312,598	4.8	1.4	6.6	15.7	15.9	55.6
Texas	726,384	5.1	1.6	6.2	15.1	15.6	56.4
Utah	39,414	4.5	2.0	8.4	17.6	16.2	51.3
Vermont	13,649	5.3	1.7	7.4	17.2	16.2	52.2
Virginia	167,393	7.3	1.6	6.7	15.2	15.5	53.8
Virgin Islands	4,387	3.7	2.0	6.5	15.5	15.9	56.5
Washington	196,527	4.5	1.9	8.0	16.8	15.5	53.3
West Virginia	59,230	4.0	1.7	6.9	16.2	16.2	55.1
Wisconsin	110,849	5.4	1.8	6.7	13.5	13.4	59.2
Wyoming	9,955	8.0	2.0	8.1	17.7	16.4	47.7

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware and Iowa, which may have resulted in less precise estimates.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-18a—Average Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed by Days Since Issuance, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount: By Region, FY2003

	Cumulative percent of monthly benefit redeemed by ¹				
	Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	End of month
U.S. Total					
All households	20.4%	59.5%	79.8%	90.8%	97.3%
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	15.4	58.3	79.5	90.1	95.2
\$ 26-50	18.4	62.3	81.5	90.6	95.6
\$ 51-100	19.7	62.8	81.7	91.1	96.5
\$101-200	20.3	62.2	81.6	91.5	97.1
\$201-300	21.1	60.7	81.0	91.7	97.6
> \$300	20.4	57.8	78.6	90.5	97.5
Northeast					
All households	16.1	58.5	79.4	90.7	97.0
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	13.9	59.2	80.4	91.1	95.7
\$ 26-50	15.4	59.1	80.2	91.1	95.7
\$ 51-100	17.6	62.0	82.0	91.6	96.5
\$101-200	15.2	59.1	79.9	90.7	96.8
\$201-300	16.5	59.7	80.6	91.6	97.5
> \$300	16.5	57.6	78.8	90.5	97.2
Mid Atlantic					
All households	15.6	60.5	81.1	91.6	97.5
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	12.7	56.3	78.7	89.9	95.3
\$ 26-50	13.5	61.4	81.8	91.1	95.9
\$ 51-100	14.4	61.8	82.0	91.5	96.6
\$101-200	16.1	62.9	82.6	92.0	97.2
\$201-300	16.4	61.7	82.2	92.4	97.8
> \$300	15.4	58.9	80.0	91.5	97.8
Midwest					
All households	23.6	62.3	82.0	92.2	97.6
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	17.2	60.1	81.2	91.1	95.2
\$ 26-50	21.0	65.4	83.8	92.0	95.8
\$ 51-100	23.0	66.0	84.2	92.6	96.8
\$101-200	24.3	65.1	83.8	92.7	97.4
\$201-300	24.8	63.6	83.2	93.0	98.0
> \$300	23.7	61.0	81.2	92.0	97.9
Southeast					
All households	20.3	58.7	79.1	90.3	97.0
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	15.4	58.4	79.6	90.4	95.4
\$ 26-50	17.8	61.5	81.0	90.6	95.6
\$ 51-100	19.0	62.2	81.6	91.2	96.5
\$101-200	21.1	62.6	81.9	91.6	97.1
\$201-300	21.0	59.7	80.2	91.2	97.4
> \$300	20.0	56.6	77.5	89.8	97.2

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware (Mid-Atlantic) and Iowa (Mountain Plains), which may have resulted in less precise estimates for these States.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-18a—Average Percent of Monthly Benefit Redeemed by Days Since Issuance, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount: By Region, FY2003
— Continued

	Cumulative percent of monthly benefit redeemed by ¹				
	Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 21	End of month
Southwest					
All households	22.9%	59.6%	78.5%	89.7%	97.2%
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	15.1	58.0	77.7	87.8	94.8
\$ 26-50	18.7	61.1	79.6	88.6	95.4
\$ 51-100	21.4	61.5	77.9	87.6	96.1
\$101-200	23.8	63.1	80.5	90.3	97.1
\$201-300	23.9	61.1	80.0	90.8	97.6
> \$300	22.8	58.1	77.6	89.5	97.3
Mountain Plains					
All households	20.4	57.3	78.5	90.3	97.0
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	17.4	59.1	79.5	89.8	94.9
\$ 26-50	20.6	63.1	82.0	90.9	95.6
\$ 51-100	21.5	63.2	82.0	91.2	96.4
\$101-200	22.1	61.7	81.3	91.3	96.9
\$201-300	21.1	58.2	79.6	91.0	97.3
> \$300	19.4	54.5	76.7	89.7	97.2
West					
All households	17.8	56.0	77.9	90.0	97.1
<i>By monthly issuance amount</i>					
< \$25	15.1	53.9	75.0	87.8	94.7
\$ 26-50	16.0	57.8	77.8	88.3	95.0
\$ 51-100	17.6	59.5	79.8	90.2	96.3
\$101-200	18.4	59.4	80.3	90.9	96.9
\$201-300	18.4	57.2	79.4	91.1	97.5
> \$300	17.4	53.5	76.1	89.3	97.3

¹ The monthly benefit is the amount issued in the current month. The percent redeemed does not reflect spending of benefits carried over from prior months.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware (Mid-Atlantic) and Iowa (Mountain Plains), which may have resulted in less precise estimates for these States.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-19—Average Dollar Amount of Monthly Issuance Carried Over to the Next Month, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Average dollar amount of unspent issuance ¹						
		All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Total U.S.	8,466,608	\$5.38	\$0.65	\$1.66	\$2.61	\$4.01	\$5.91	\$11.48
Alabama	182,866	3.51	0.58	1.33	1.81	2.70	3.46	6.37
Alaska	17,297	11.01	0.86	2.54	3.28	6.52	8.33	19.56
Arizona	183,585	5.85	0.69	1.75	2.58	4.02	5.66	10.52
Arkansas	123,640	4.83	0.77	1.74	2.33	3.44	5.40	9.23
California	220,739	5.74	0.58	1.39	2.33	4.00	5.70	11.39
Colorado	83,532	6.97	0.76	2.02	3.08	4.68	6.97	14.85
Connecticut	88,150	3.43	0.58	1.40	2.52	3.34	4.85	7.76
Delaware	11,443	5.72	0.54	1.11	2.46	4.26	6.08	11.31
District of Columbia	38,308	4.39	0.61	1.51	2.34	3.67	5.00	8.53
Florida	482,533	5.03	0.66	1.48	2.51	4.14	6.00	12.75
Georgia	308,361	4.00	0.57	1.40	1.97	3.02	4.18	7.40
Hawaii	49,510	9.41	0.84	2.12	3.99	5.65	8.20	17.07
Idaho	32,452	6.34	0.79	1.98	2.92	4.44	6.52	13.88
Illinois	428,984	6.06	0.60	1.54	2.49	3.83	7.02	13.29
Indiana	198,184	5.97	0.70	1.97	2.89	4.52	6.27	11.70
Iowa	31,799	5.78	0.26	0.57	1.90	5.61	9.64	14.39
Kansas	67,170	4.67	0.81	1.94	2.71	4.21	6.10	9.57
Kentucky	209,885	4.82	0.76	1.73	2.50	3.66	5.36	10.13
Louisiana	254,497	7.11	0.71	2.54	4.48	5.10	7.12	11.31
Maine	54,528	5.59	0.75	1.68	3.23	5.19	7.13	12.86
Maryland	111,999	3.83	0.54	1.35	2.23	2.99	4.25	8.36
Massachusetts	124,201	3.97	0.54	1.62	2.07	3.47	4.90	8.71
Michigan	351,646	4.53	0.63	1.61	2.70	4.01	5.48	9.05
Minnesota	96,824	5.82	0.66	1.85	3.03	4.55	6.80	10.57
Mississippi	142,947	4.46	0.60	1.63	2.34	3.28	4.64	8.16
Missouri	243,648	5.26	0.67	1.54	2.25	3.71	6.21	11.50
Montana	28,876	6.42	0.82	2.23	3.75	5.27	7.54	11.95
Nebraska	41,611	5.93	0.70	1.86	2.91	4.87	7.08	13.92
Nevada	47,374	11.28	0.85	2.63	4.18	7.53	11.88	26.71
New Hampshire	20,798	4.71	0.63	1.75	2.88	4.70	6.44	10.06
New Jersey	155,115	4.12	0.52	1.30	2.16	3.39	4.77	9.68
New Mexico	74,256	5.76	0.85	1.83	2.60	3.94	5.94	11.26
New York	735,648	6.03	0.59	1.50	2.73	4.65	6.49	14.62
North Carolina	267,400	4.47	0.76	1.83	2.46	3.55	5.27	8.39
North Dakota	16,813	7.31	0.72	2.34	4.41	6.60	9.93	13.59
Ohio	367,801	6.26	0.58	1.53	2.54	3.98	6.37	16.14
Oklahoma	149,280	5.18	0.81	2.03	2.72	3.96	5.87	9.81
Oregon	179,255	4.34	0.73	2.01	2.61	3.92	5.49	8.49
Pennsylvania	365,835	4.83	0.62	1.47	2.66	4.11	5.68	10.16
Rhode Island	33,836	4.60	0.60	1.77	2.52	3.99	5.96	10.62
South Carolina	183,577	4.07	0.66	1.57	2.26	3.17	4.32	7.63
South Dakota	20,021	6.36	0.65	1.23	3.68	5.66	7.70	10.23
Tennessee	312,598	5.11	0.68	1.66	2.48	3.83	5.76	11.08
Texas	726,384	6.35	0.64	1.69	2.56	3.77	5.93	13.62
Utah	39,414	6.60	0.74	1.66	2.65	4.47	6.48	13.52
Vermont	13,649	6.02	0.82	2.01	2.70	4.74	6.60	12.44
Virginia	167,393	4.96	0.75	1.84	2.85	4.30	6.10	10.71
Virgin Islands	4,387	8.50	1.01	1.39	3.28	6.02	6.20	11.12
Washington	196,527	5.06	0.69	1.69	2.86	4.46	5.91	11.20
West Virginia	59,230	4.28	0.65	1.60	2.34	3.69	5.41	8.59
Wisconsin	110,849	5.93	0.58	1.69	2.44	4.36	7.37	15.01
Wyoming	9,955	6.97	0.62	1.80	3.19	5.14	8.04	14.23

¹ Unspent issuance is the amount of issuance unredeemed each issuance month, taken as the maximum of zero and (issuance - redemption). This measure ignores unspent issuance from prior months. Issuance months are defined for each household to begin on their issuance day.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware and Iowa, which may have resulted in less precise estimates.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-20—Distribution of Households by Amount of Monthly Issuance Carried Over to the Next Month, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Amount of unspent issuance ¹				
		< \$1	\$1-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	> \$50
		<i>Percent of households</i>				
Total U.S.	8,466,608	68.4%	22.5%	4.0%	2.4%	2.8%
Alabama	182,866	69.5	24.2	3.1	1.6	1.6
Alaska	17,297	64.8	22.3	4.6	2.9	5.3
Arizona	183,585	66.6	23.8	4.1	2.4	3.1
Arkansas	123,640	66.3	25.0	4.0	2.2	2.5
California	220,739	68.6	21.8	4.0	2.6	3.1
Colorado	83,532	66.2	23.1	4.3	2.8	3.6
Connecticut	88,150	73.1	20.4	3.2	1.7	1.6
Delaware	11,443	68.8	20.8	4.4	2.8	3.2
District of Columbia	38,308	68.8	23.5	3.5	2.0	2.2
Florida	482,533	68.7	22.6	3.9	2.3	2.6
Georgia	308,361	69.0	24.1	3.2	1.7	2.0
Hawaii	49,510	64.3	21.1	5.6	3.8	5.2
Idaho	32,452	65.9	23.9	4.4	2.6	3.3
Illinois	428,984	68.9	21.4	4.0	2.6	3.1
Indiana	198,184	66.3	23.4	4.5	2.6	3.2
Iowa	31,799	75.8	14.7	2.9	3.1	3.6
Kansas	67,170	66.3	25.0	4.2	2.2	2.3
Kentucky	209,885	67.5	23.9	4.1	2.2	2.4
Louisiana	254,497	66.0	22.0	4.7	3.2	4.1
Maine	54,528	66.9	22.1	5.0	3.1	2.9
Maryland	111,999	71.8	21.6	3.0	1.7	1.8
Massachusetts	124,201	71.1	21.3	3.7	2.0	1.9
Michigan	351,646	70.1	21.8	3.6	2.2	2.3
Minnesota	96,824	67.0	22.9	4.2	2.6	3.1
Mississippi	142,947	67.9	23.9	3.8	2.2	2.2
Missouri	243,648	66.8	23.9	4.1	2.4	2.8
Montana	28,876	66.1	22.7	4.7	3.1	3.4
Nebraska	41,611	68.0	22.2	4.1	2.6	3.1
Nevada	47,374	65.1	19.0	5.6	4.1	6.3
New Hampshire	20,798	68.6	22.1	4.5	2.4	2.4
New Jersey	155,115	72.6	20.1	3.4	2.0	1.9
New Mexico	74,256	65.5	24.6	4.2	2.7	3.0
New York	735,648	69.9	19.8	4.4	2.8	3.2
North Carolina	267,400	68.0	24.0	3.8	2.0	2.2
North Dakota	16,813	63.4	23.2	5.6	3.6	4.2
Ohio	367,801	71.1	19.4	3.9	2.4	3.1
Oklahoma	149,280	67.6	23.4	4.0	2.3	2.6
Oregon	179,255	68.4	23.0	4.0	2.3	2.2
Pennsylvania	365,835	68.4	22.5	4.1	2.5	2.5
Rhode Island	33,836	71.0	20.6	3.8	2.2	2.4
South Carolina	183,577	67.3	25.3	3.6	1.9	1.9
South Dakota	20,021	64.7	24.1	4.6	3.0	3.6
Tennessee	312,598	67.4	23.8	4.0	2.2	2.6
Texas	726,384	67.7	23.1	3.7	2.3	3.2
Utah	39,414	65.8	23.3	4.3	2.8	3.7
Vermont	13,649	65.9	23.4	4.8	2.8	3.2
Virginia	167,393	67.3	24.0	4.0	2.2	2.4
Virgin Islands	4,387	66.1	22.0	4.4	3.1	4.4
Washington	196,527	66.5	24.0	4.4	2.6	2.5
West Virginia	59,230	67.8	23.9	4.0	2.1	2.1
Wisconsin	110,849	69.1	21.4	3.8	2.4	3.2
Wyoming	9,955	67.1	21.2	4.9	3.1	3.8

¹ Unspent issuance is the amount of issuance unredeemed each issuance month, taken as the maximum of zero and (issuance - redemption). This measure ignores unspent issuance from prior months. Issuance months are defined for each household to begin on their issuance day.

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware and Iowa, which may have resulted in less precise estimates.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-21—Average EBT Balance at the End of the Issuance Month, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Average monthly ending balance ¹						
		All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Total U.S.	8,466,608	\$12.82	\$2.28	\$4.58	\$7.66	\$10.97	\$13.80	\$23.67
Alabama	182,866	7.25	1.96	3.36	4.41	6.69	7.03	11.52
Alaska	17,297	20.89	2.91	4.74	8.34	14.93	17.96	33.83
Arizona	183,585	12.17	2.31	3.86	5.81	8.78	11.99	20.96
Arkansas	123,640	9.53	2.08	4.05	5.74	7.27	10.33	17.16
California	220,739	13.39	3.37	5.24	5.99	9.28	13.66	25.60
Colorado	83,532	15.55	3.09	6.65	9.22	12.64	15.98	28.17
Connecticut	88,150	8.85	1.80	4.02	7.94	9.58	11.00	16.97
Delaware	11,443	16.44	2.08	7.15	8.90	12.03	18.10	30.54
District of Columbia	38,308	10.46	2.66	5.03	7.90	9.45	11.39	17.23
Florida	482,533	10.71	2.35	3.74	5.84	9.93	13.22	23.32
Georgia	308,361	8.81	1.82	3.70	5.91	7.66	9.11	14.29
Hawaii	49,510	36.68	7.06	8.85	16.56	24.42	29.74	64.80
Idaho	32,452	16.59	2.90	6.28	9.90	12.06	17.78	33.25
Illinois	428,984	12.33	1.77	3.84	6.24	8.85	14.66	24.23
Indiana	198,184	15.29	3.11	6.58	10.32	14.03	14.78	25.50
Iowa	31,799	21.59	5.35	6.65	12.73	21.77	31.39	48.46
Kansas	67,170	10.72	2.41	4.70	6.82	10.07	13.77	20.56
Kentucky	209,885	10.94	2.56	4.35	6.39	9.12	12.23	21.03
Louisiana	254,497	20.35	2.12	6.88	14.11	15.65	20.07	31.12
Maine	54,528	14.68	2.06	4.70	8.72	13.91	17.77	33.69
Maryland	111,999	9.24	1.46	3.30	6.07	8.18	10.07	18.16
Massachusetts	124,201	7.64	1.18	2.77	4.20	7.08	8.97	16.22
Michigan	351,646	11.94	2.80	4.43	10.41	11.92	13.10	19.33
Minnesota	96,824	12.24	1.87	4.44	7.80	10.98	14.16	20.18
Mississippi	142,947	9.43	1.98	4.51	5.63	7.80	9.94	15.78
Missouri	243,648	11.71	1.64	3.31	5.20	8.38	13.96	25.09
Montana	28,876	17.54	3.81	8.49	14.29	16.20	19.30	27.50
Nebraska	41,611	15.01	2.03	5.01	8.77	14.03	17.79	32.06
Nevada	47,374	31.32	3.39	8.21	12.80	23.20	33.62	67.32
New Hampshire	20,798	11.94	2.69	6.05	8.81	13.60	13.89	21.82
New Jersey	155,115	9.59	1.44	3.01	6.61	9.03	10.44	19.10
New Mexico	74,256	13.26	2.98	5.54	7.81	9.93	13.55	23.62
New York	735,648	16.96	2.04	4.57	9.58	17.21	16.56	29.30
North Carolina	267,400	11.10	2.63	5.32	8.01	10.40	12.50	17.88
North Dakota	16,813	28.32	5.54	9.85	24.64	31.80	32.36	39.99
Ohio	367,801	13.64	1.81	4.40	7.42	11.03	14.63	29.10
Oklahoma	149,280	12.15	2.86	5.48	8.06	9.91	13.53	21.30
Oregon	179,255	8.65	1.93	4.19	5.40	8.00	10.20	16.71
Pennsylvania	365,835	12.50	2.30	4.86	9.30	12.93	13.30	21.05
Rhode Island	33,836	9.26	1.46	3.56	5.57	8.81	12.14	18.78
South Carolina	183,577	8.94	2.11	4.50	5.26	7.85	9.32	15.10
South Dakota	20,021	21.12	4.32	7.19	21.24	22.44	23.92	25.78
Tennessee	312,598	10.72	1.73	3.65	5.62	8.59	12.64	21.53
Texas	726,384	14.74	2.49	4.89	7.26	9.80	15.05	28.51
Utah	39,414	15.19	2.68	4.11	6.76	10.22	15.24	30.25
Vermont	13,649	12.62	2.34	4.38	6.08	10.18	14.27	24.59
Virginia	167,393	11.09	2.25	4.78	7.96	10.79	13.38	20.80
Virgin Islands	4,387	23.31	2.39	5.28	12.19	22.42	15.70	26.95
Washington	196,527	11.76	2.54	4.97	9.10	11.38	11.94	21.17
West Virginia	59,230	10.07	1.67	3.58	5.35	9.10	12.64	19.76
Wisconsin	110,849	13.93	2.72	5.02	7.64	11.81	17.08	30.41
Wyoming	9,955	15.57	2.25	4.88	10.20	12.29	18.77	27.61

¹ The monthly ending balance is the EBT account balance at the time of the next issuance. **This measure reflects the long-run cumulation of unspent issuance from all prior months.**

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware and Iowa, which may have resulted in less precise estimates.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-22—Distribution of Households by EBT Balance at the End of the Issuance Month, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Monthly ending balance ¹				
		< \$1	\$1-10	\$11-25	\$26-50	> \$50
		<i>Percent of households</i>				
Total U.S.	8,466,608	48.7%	36.3%	5.6%	3.5%	5.9%
Alabama	182,866	51.2	38.6	4.5	2.4	3.3
Alaska	17,297	42.6	37.7	6.9	4.0	8.8
Arizona	183,585	46.0	39.0	5.7	3.4	5.8
Arkansas	123,640	46.1	40.4	5.7	3.2	4.6
California	220,739	48.2	36.1	5.7	3.6	6.4
Colorado	83,532	45.6	37.3	6.2	3.9	7.0
Connecticut	88,150	57.3	32.2	4.5	2.4	3.6
Delaware	11,443	44.2	36.1	6.7	4.2	8.8
District of Columbia	38,308	50.5	37.6	4.6	2.9	4.4
Florida	482,533	50.6	35.6	5.5	3.2	5.0
Georgia	308,361	49.1	39.9	4.6	2.5	3.9
Hawaii	49,510	40.6	33.8	7.4	5.1	13.1
Idaho	32,452	42.2	40.0	6.6	3.9	7.2
Illinois	428,984	51.9	33.6	5.2	3.4	5.8
Indiana	198,184	44.6	38.0	6.5	4.0	6.9
Iowa	31,799	34.4	42.1	6.8	5.1	11.6
Kansas	67,170	43.0	42.1	6.4	3.5	5.0
Kentucky	209,885	47.7	38.0	5.9	3.4	5.0
Louisiana	254,497	43.3	34.5	6.0	5.0	11.3
Maine	54,528	46.5	34.4	7.2	4.6	7.3
Maryland	111,999	54.0	35.1	4.4	2.5	4.1
Massachusetts	124,201	55.3	33.1	5.1	2.8	3.7
Michigan	351,646	50.9	35.5	5.2	3.2	5.2
Minnesota	96,824	47.1	37.0	6.1	3.6	6.1
Mississippi	142,947	47.9	40.4	4.8	2.8	4.1
Missouri	243,648	45.3	39.6	5.9	3.5	5.8
Montana	28,876	44.4	36.7	6.6	4.4	7.9
Nebraska	41,611	47.2	36.4	6.0	3.8	6.7
Nevada	47,374	39.1	31.4	7.5	6.1	15.9
New Hampshire	20,798	49.2	35.3	6.6	3.6	5.3
New Jersey	155,115	55.9	32.2	4.9	2.8	4.1
New Mexico	74,256	42.8	40.8	6.2	3.8	6.3
New York	735,648	50.0	32.2	6.1	4.2	7.5
North Carolina	267,400	45.8	40.3	5.8	3.2	4.9
North Dakota	16,813	38.1	37.8	7.8	5.2	11.0
Ohio	367,801	57.8	27.3	5.4	3.4	6.1
Oklahoma	149,280	45.7	39.4	6.0	3.5	5.4
Oregon	179,255	50.6	36.3	5.6	3.3	4.2
Pennsylvania	365,835	48.0	37.0	5.8	3.6	5.5
Rhode Island	33,836	54.8	32.4	5.1	3.2	4.6
South Carolina	183,577	47.1	41.0	5.2	2.8	3.8
South Dakota	20,021	40.3	40.5	6.4	4.2	8.6
Tennessee	312,598	46.8	38.9	5.9	3.4	5.0
Texas	726,384	47.6	37.1	5.4	3.2	6.6
Utah	39,414	43.6	39.1	6.2	3.9	7.2
Vermont	13,649	44.0	38.8	7.1	4.1	6.1
Virginia	167,393	47.2	38.1	6.1	3.5	5.1
Virgin Islands	4,387	41.4	37.2	6.6	4.8	10.0
Washington	196,527	46.3	38.5	6.2	3.7	5.4
West Virginia	59,230	45.3	40.2	6.2	3.5	4.9
Wisconsin	110,849	50.3	34.6	5.3	3.4	6.4
Wyoming	9,955	49.4	31.8	6.9	4.5	7.4

¹ The monthly ending balance is the EBT account balance at the time of the next issuance. **This measure reflects the long-run cumulation of unspent issuance from all prior months.**

Note: For each household, the regular monthly issuance date was imputed from EBT redemption patterns observed over the period from July 2002-December 2003. EBT was operational for fewer than 6 months in Delaware and Iowa, which may have resulted in less precise estimates.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. ALERT Data, FY2003. Average monthly statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month, limited to case-months with a single issuance within the regular issuance cycle.

Table B-22a—Distribution of EBT Benefit Redemption By Calendar Week, FY2003

	Calendar days in issuance schedule ¹	EBT benefit redemption by week of calendar month							
		Distribution of number of transactions				Distribution of dollars redeemed			
		Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Total U.S.		24.8%	31.0%	24.3%	19.7%	32.3%	33.0%	20.2%	14.4%
Alabama	4-18	14.4	28.6	32.8	24.1	15.5	34.7	33.3	16.4
Alaska	1st	40.1	27.5	18.3	14.1	52.8	22.8	14.0	10.4
Arizona	1-13	23.9	33.1	24.0	19.0	31.4	35.9	18.8	13.9
Arkansas	5,10,15	18.5	27.7	31.4	22.4	23.0	30.3	31.3	15.5
California	1-10	25.0	33.8	23.0	18.2	32.9	35.1	18.2	13.8
Colorado	1-10	23.8	33.0	23.4	19.8	31.9	35.0	18.3	14.8
Connecticut	1-3	43.5	27.2	16.9	12.4	57.7	22.0	11.8	8.4
Delaware	5-11	13.1	37.9	26.6	22.4	17.4	45.4	20.7	16.5
District of Columbia	1-10	27.0	35.1	20.8	17.1	36.4	36.6	15.0	12.1
Florida	1-15	21.6	30.3	26.6	21.4	26.1	34.2	23.6	16.1
Georgia	5-14	13.7	36.1	28.6	21.6	15.7	46.1	23.5	14.7
Hawaii	3,5	28.4	31.3	22.3	18.0	39.2	29.8	17.7	13.3
Idaho	1-5	33.4	28.9	20.7	17.0	47.4	24.6	15.6	12.3
Illinois	See note	34.0	24.6	21.0	20.4	44.5	20.9	18.0	16.5
Indiana	1-10	27.1	33.0	22.2	17.7	37.0	34.1	16.6	12.4
Iowa	1-10	21.7	32.3	24.4	21.5	31.3	34.1	19.0	15.7
Kansas	1-10	26.6	33.5	22.4	17.5	36.8	34.5	16.6	12.1
Kentucky	1-10	26.0	34.2	22.5	17.3	36.1	35.6	16.4	11.9
Louisiana	5-14	22.4	34.0	25.1	18.5	27.7	40.6	19.7	12.0
Maine	10-14	9.7	25.2	35.0	30.1	7.8	36.1	33.1	23.0
Maryland	6-15	14.3	42.8	24.4	18.6	18.4	49.6	18.4	13.6
Massachusetts	See note	21.5	32.1	26.2	20.2	27.0	37.1	21.7	14.2
Michigan	1-9	28.6	33.0	21.5	16.9	38.8	32.9	16.2	12.1
Minnesota	4-13	16.4	34.5	27.2	22.0	20.1	42.1	22.0	15.9
Mississippi	5-19	13.9	28.8	33.2	24.0	13.6	35.0	34.6	16.8
Missouri	1-22	19.2	24.7	27.4	28.6	21.1	26.7	28.3	23.9
Montana	2-6	30.8	31.2	21.3	16.6	44.4	27.7	15.8	12.1
Nebraska	1-5	32.9	29.0	20.9	17.2	45.5	25.6	16.2	12.7
Nevada	1st	30.2	25.0	21.5	23.2	36.4	23.4	19.3	20.8
New Hampshire	5th	27.4	32.2	22.5	18.0	42.3	28.2	17.0	12.6
New Jersey	1-5 ²	39.1	28.1	18.4	14.4	51.2	24.1	13.9	10.9
New Mexico	1-20	19.1	26.2	29.2	25.5	22.0	29.2	30.0	18.8
New York	1-10 ^{2,3}	23.0	30.9	24.8	21.2	29.8	34.3	20.5	15.3
North Carolina	3-7	27.9	32.5	22.0	17.6	41.3	30.0	16.6	12.1
North Dakota	1st	40.8	26.0	18.2	15.0	54.1	21.4	13.7	10.8
Ohio	1-10 ²	30.0	30.8	21.5	17.7	40.9	29.6	16.2	13.4
Oklahoma	1,2	38.5	27.6	19.3	14.6	55.0	21.8	13.5	9.7
Oregon	1-9	27.8	33.3	22.3	16.6	38.3	33.4	16.7	11.6
Pennsylvania	1-10 ³	20.2	33.2	26.6	20.0	25.0	38.6	22.3	14.1
Rhode Island	1st	42.3	23.7	16.4	15.5	55.6	18.3	11.5	12.7
South Carolina	1-10	26.6	35.4	21.7	16.3	36.8	37.4	15.4	10.4
South Dakota	10th	8.6	38.2	30.7	22.5	6.3	51.2	26.2	16.2
Tennessee	1-10	25.5	34.0	22.4	18.1	34.4	35.8	16.7	13.1
Texas	See note	22.3	29.3	26.7	21.7	28.5	32.5	23.3	15.7
Utah	5,11,15	17.9	25.2	31.3	25.6	21.0	27.2	31.9	19.9
Vermont	1st	42.1	26.2	17.6	14.1	56.6	20.6	12.7	10.1
Virginia	1st	42.0	25.8	17.3	15.0	56.4	20.3	12.4	10.9
Virgin Islands	1st	45.1	24.4	16.6	13.9	62.0	18.8	10.8	8.3
Washington	1-10	24.4	34.2	23.0	18.4	32.6	36.3	17.7	13.4
West Virginia	1-9	24.5	33.4	23.2	18.9	35.3	34.4	17.3	13.0
Wisconsin	See note	20.4	30.6	27.6	21.4	24.7	34.6	24.3	16.3
Wyoming	1-4	33.6	28.5	20.6	17.2	47.2	24.5	15.6	12.6

¹ Column shows the range of calendar days, or single day, on which regular monthly benefits are disbursed to households. Staggered issuance cycles are based on criteria that vary by State (case number, last name, SSN, or date of birth).

² Issuance schedule varies by county; maximum range is shown.

³ New York City and Pennsylvania issue benefits during the first 10 business days, excluding Sundays and holidays.

Note: Four states have nonconsecutive issuance days. IL: 1,3,5,8,11,14,17,19,21,23; MA: 1,2,4,5,7,8,10,11,13,14; TX: 1,3,5,6,7,9,11,12,13,15; and WI: 2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-22b—Distribution of EBT Benefit Redemption by Day of Week, FY2003

	EBT benefit redemption by day of week													
	Distribution of number of transactions							Distribution of dollars redeemed						
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Total U.S.	13.4%	14.8%	15.0%	14.5%	14.2%	13.5%	14.6%	14.0%	14.8%	14.8%	14.1%	13.8%	13.2%	15.3%
Alabama	13.5	15.1	15.0	14.3	13.9	13.0	15.1	13.9	15.3	14.5	14.0	13.4	13.0	15.9
Alaska	11.8	14.8	15.9	14.4	14.4	14.2	14.5	11.7	14.4	16.9	13.9	14.0	14.1	14.9
Arizona	14.2	14.8	14.9	14.3	14.1	13.4	14.1	15.1	15.1	14.7	14.0	13.5	12.9	14.7
Arkansas	13.7	14.8	15.4	14.2	14.2	12.9	15.0	14.2	14.3	15.6	13.5	14.2	12.4	15.7
California	14.0	14.8	15.1	14.6	14.4	13.6	13.5	14.5	15.1	15.0	14.4	14.0	13.2	13.7
Colorado	14.3	14.5	14.8	14.3	14.2	13.6	14.3	15.0	14.3	14.6	14.1	13.9	13.2	14.9
Connecticut	13.7	14.9	15.3	14.7	14.3	12.9	14.3	14.5	14.9	15.1	14.3	14.1	12.3	14.9
Delaware	13.8	14.6	15.7	15.4	14.1	12.7	13.6	14.0	14.8	15.8	15.1	13.9	12.5	13.8
District of Columbia	14.8	13.6	15.0	14.2	14.1	13.1	15.2	16.0	13.2	14.5	13.6	13.6	12.6	16.6
Florida	13.8	14.6	15.0	14.4	14.1	13.3	14.8	14.6	14.6	14.7	13.8	13.6	13.0	15.7
Georgia	13.8	15.0	14.7	14.4	13.9	12.8	15.4	14.6	15.2	14.0	13.8	13.4	12.5	16.5
Hawaii	13.2	14.0	14.9	14.6	14.7	14.2	14.3	13.6	13.6	14.9	14.4	14.8	13.9	14.8
Idaho	13.4	14.7	14.9	14.4	14.3	13.8	14.6	13.9	14.5	14.8	14.3	13.9	13.4	15.2
Illinois	13.5	14.8	15.0	14.1	13.9	13.6	15.1	13.9	14.9	15.0	13.2	13.2	13.4	16.4
Indiana	13.7	14.8	15.0	14.4	14.1	13.3	14.8	14.0	14.8	14.9	14.1	13.8	13.0	15.3
Iowa	12.9	15.4	15.2	14.4	13.8	13.8	14.5	12.3	16.0	14.9	14.3	13.1	14.0	15.3
Kansas	13.7	15.0	15.1	14.3	14.2	13.4	14.4	14.2	15.1	15.0	14.0	13.8	13.0	14.9
Kentucky	13.5	15.1	15.0	14.5	14.2	13.3	14.4	14.2	15.3	14.8	14.2	13.8	12.9	14.7
Louisiana	13.2	14.7	14.7	14.7	14.1	13.4	15.0	14.0	14.7	14.5	14.3	13.8	13.0	15.8
Maine	13.0	15.2	14.7	14.2	14.8	14.1	14.0	13.6	15.4	14.2	14.0	14.5	13.8	14.4
Maryland	12.8	14.8	15.4	14.5	14.5	13.3	14.8	14.9	14.5	14.6	13.6	13.8	12.8	15.8
Massachusetts	13.3	15.3	15.0	14.4	14.1	13.4	14.5	13.9	15.6	14.6	13.8	13.4	13.3	15.5
Michigan	13.5	14.6	15.0	14.7	14.1	13.3	14.7	13.9	14.6	14.9	14.5	13.7	13.0	15.3
Minnesota	14.1	14.4	14.6	14.3	14.1	13.8	14.6	14.6	14.2	14.2	14.0	13.8	13.9	15.3
Mississippi	13.0	15.3	14.8	14.1	14.0	13.2	15.6	13.3	15.5	14.1	13.9	13.6	13.2	16.4
Missouri	13.8	14.8	14.9	14.3	13.9	13.4	15.1	14.3	14.8	14.6	13.8	13.5	13.1	16.0
Montana	13.6	14.8	14.7	14.5	14.5	13.7	14.1	14.0	14.8	14.3	14.4	14.4	13.5	14.5
Nebraska	13.8	14.7	14.8	14.4	14.1	13.6	14.6	14.2	14.5	14.6	14.1	13.8	13.3	15.4
Nevada	14.0	14.6	15.2	14.3	14.2	13.9	13.9	14.5	14.6	15.2	13.8	13.9	13.8	14.2
New Hampshire	13.4	15.0	15.0	14.6	14.3	13.2	14.6	13.7	14.4	14.9	14.4	14.2	12.3	16.1
New Jersey	13.7	14.6	15.1	14.8	14.4	13.2	14.2	14.9	14.4	14.6	14.3	13.8	12.6	15.3
New Mexico	13.9	14.7	14.9	14.4	14.2	13.5	14.5	14.0	14.8	14.7	14.3	13.8	13.2	15.2
New York	12.3	14.6	15.2	14.8	14.6	14.3	14.1	12.5	14.4	14.9	14.4	14.2	13.9	15.7
North Carolina	13.1	14.9	15.0	14.4	14.3	13.3	15.0	13.3	15.0	14.7	14.2	14.2	13.1	15.5
North Dakota	12.9	14.8	16.0	14.3	13.8	13.9	14.2	13.8	14.5	16.7	13.6	12.9	13.8	14.7
Ohio	13.3	14.6	14.9	14.6	14.2	13.6	14.8	13.7	14.7	14.8	14.4	14.0	13.3	15.0
Oklahoma	14.0	14.7	15.0	14.7	14.0	13.3	14.2	14.9	14.8	15.3	14.8	13.2	12.5	14.6
Oregon	13.8	14.6	15.0	14.4	14.1	14.0	14.0	14.6	14.7	15.0	14.2	13.6	13.6	14.2
Pennsylvania	11.3	14.6	15.1	15.1	15.2	14.7	14.0	10.4	14.8	14.9	15.3	15.5	15.2	13.8
Rhode Island	13.4	15.4	16.7	14.1	13.2	12.8	14.4	13.7	16.0	18.2	12.8	11.9	12.3	15.1
South Carolina	13.4	14.8	15.0	14.4	13.9	12.8	15.6	13.9	14.8	14.6	14.1	13.5	12.6	16.4
South Dakota	13.3	14.9	15.1	14.0	15.2	13.8	13.7	13.8	15.0	15.2	13.1	15.9	13.3	13.7
Tennessee	13.8	14.9	14.9	14.5	14.1	13.0	14.9	14.6	14.8	14.6	14.2	13.8	12.5	15.5
Texas	14.4	14.8	14.9	14.3	14.0	13.3	14.4	14.9	15.0	14.9	14.0	13.5	12.9	14.8
Utah	12.2	14.6	15.1	14.4	14.1	14.1	15.4	12.0	14.4	15.5	14.4	13.6	14.0	16.2
Vermont	13.9	14.6	15.8	14.1	13.6	13.6	14.4	15.0	14.0	16.5	13.1	12.7	13.5	15.2
Virginia	13.8	14.3	16.0	14.4	13.7	13.0	14.8	14.9	13.6	16.9	13.6	12.6	12.8	15.5
Virgin Islands	11.8	14.5	16.1	13.9	14.3	13.8	15.7	11.9	14.6	16.8	12.8	13.7	13.3	17.0
Washington	13.4	14.5	14.9	14.3	14.4	14.4	14.2	14.1	14.4	14.7	14.2	14.2	14.0	14.5
West Virginia	13.0	15.4	15.1	14.6	14.3	13.7	14.0	13.4	15.7	15.1	14.4	13.9	13.4	14.2
Wisconsin	13.8	14.8	14.8	14.4	14.1	13.3	14.8	13.6	14.9	14.8	14.3	13.7	13.0	15.8
Wyoming	13.5	15.0	15.0	14.4	14.3	13.8	14.0	13.8	14.8	14.9	14.3	14.1	13.8	14.2

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-23—Prevalence of EBT Purchase Inactivity, for Households Grouped by Monthly Issuance Amount, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Percent of households ever inactive during FY2003 ¹						
		All households	Households grouped by monthly issuance amount					
			< \$25	\$26-50	\$51-100	\$101-200	\$201-300	> \$300
Total U.S.	8,466,608	7.1%	25.6%	14.5%	8.0%	5.3%	4.3%	3.7%
Alabama	182,866	5.5	19.0	10.0	5.9	4.1	4.3	3.9
Alaska	17,297	10.9	41.2	27.9	15.2	8.6	7.6	6.0
Arizona	183,585	5.7	21.2	13.9	7.7	5.6	4.4	3.3
Arkansas	123,640	5.4	26.4	11.8	5.8	3.0	2.6	2.2
California	220,739	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colorado	83,532	11.7	32.0	18.9	11.9	8.9	8.3	8.7
Connecticut	88,150	10.9	34.5	17.7	10.1	6.3	3.9	2.6
Delaware	11,443	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
District of Columbia	38,308	7.2	28.6	17.5	9.9	5.7	4.4	3.2
Florida	482,533	8.5	29.2	15.8	8.4	5.1	5.2	4.6
Georgia	308,361	6.1	22.0	11.1	6.6	4.8	4.0	4.2
Hawaii	49,510	5.4	15.7	20.9	9.0	5.8	4.6	3.3
Idaho	32,452	7.8	29.0	15.6	8.2	5.1	4.1	3.3
Illinois	428,984	6.5	18.1	12.0	8.0	5.4	5.0	3.9
Indiana	198,184	7.2	29.2	18.2	9.4	5.3	4.1	3.3
Iowa	31,799	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kansas	67,170	7.7	30.2	15.2	7.2	4.1	2.9	1.7
Kentucky	209,885	6.0	29.0	12.8	6.9	3.6	2.3	1.7
Louisiana	254,497	3.8	14.3	11.1	5.6	3.2	2.4	1.9
Maine	54,528	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maryland	111,999	10.0	22.9	13.3	10.5	8.1	7.7	8.5
Massachusetts	124,201	7.1	23.7	12.0	8.4	5.2	3.5	2.6
Michigan	351,646	8.2	29.9	16.8	9.7	6.1	3.8	3.0
Minnesota	96,824	9.4	32.4	20.1	12.4	6.0	4.0	3.1
Mississippi	142,947	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missouri	243,648	5.7	25.2	12.1	6.5	4.1	2.6	2.1
Montana	28,876	7.1	31.0	22.1	10.5	4.4	2.0	1.4
Nebraska	41,611	11.0	36.5	17.2	8.7	6.1	4.9	3.8
Nevada	47,374	11.2	27.3	19.1	12.2	8.6	9.1	8.8
New Hampshire	20,798	9.0	32.8	19.3	9.5	3.6	1.6	1.2
New Jersey	155,115	8.2	23.1	12.9	8.2	6.8	6.1	5.6
New Mexico	74,256	6.9	30.5	15.2	7.7	5.0	3.9	4.1
New York	735,648	8.1	24.7	22.0	9.6	6.7	5.0	5.0
North Carolina	267,400	6.7	28.0	14.6	6.8	3.9	3.2	2.7
North Dakota	16,813	7.8	34.5	19.8	10.4	4.6	2.3	1.5
Ohio	367,801	6.5	14.1	8.6	4.9	5.5	6.2	5.6
Oklahoma	149,280	8.3	34.1	16.7	7.4	3.7	2.7	2.4
Oregon	179,255	5.9	30.8	15.7	7.8	3.8	1.5	0.9
Pennsylvania	365,835	6.9	28.0	14.7	8.0	4.2	3.0	2.2
Rhode Island	33,836	9.1	37.0	17.6	8.8	4.4	2.9	2.0
South Carolina	183,577	5.7	26.5	17.0	6.0	3.5	2.1	1.4
South Dakota	20,021	5.5	23.8	13.3	8.7	4.4	2.4	1.0
Tennessee	312,598	7.6	31.2	13.8	7.5	4.3	3.5	3.0
Texas	726,384	5.9	2.8	12.4	9.2	6.0	6.3	5.4
Utah	39,414	5.9	20.2	14.1	7.9	5.1	3.7	2.2
Vermont	13,649	5.4	24.9	16.7	8.3	4.4	2.5	2.0
Virginia	167,393	9.4	32.6	17.3	9.5	4.5	3.6	2.9
Virgin Islands	4,387	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Washington	196,527	5.9	25.5	16.2	7.2	4.8	3.0	2.1
West Virginia	59,230	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wisconsin	110,849	9.6	32.7	17.7	9.7	5.9	3.9	2.7
Wyoming	9,955	4.6	17.4	9.2	4.1	3.9	2.8	1.7

¹ Households are identified as "ever inactive" if, during any month, issuance was received but no purchase transactions were made.

— EBT was implemented during FY2003 and there were fewer than 12 months of data available for this analysis.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Statistics are based on a sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month. For sampled households, EBT inactivity is based on data from all 12-months.

Table B-24—Distribution of Households by Months of EBT Purchase Inactivity, FY2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Percent of households by number of months of inactivity				Percent of households with consecutive months of inactivity
		Zero	One	Two	More than 2	
Total U.S.	8,466,608	92.9%	5.6%	1.0%	0.5%	0.5%
Alabama	182,866	94.5	4.8	0.5	0.2	0.2
Alaska	17,297	89.1	8.0	1.8	1.1	1.2
Arizona	183,585	94.3	4.9	0.6	0.2	0.3
Arkansas	123,640	94.6	4.2	0.8	0.4	0.3
California	220,739	—	—	—	—	—
Colorado	83,532	88.3	9.1	1.6	1.0	0.8
Connecticut	88,150	89.1	7.8	1.9	1.2	1.0
Delaware	11,443	—	—	—	—	—
District of Columbia	38,308	92.8	5.9	0.8	0.4	0.5
Florida	482,533	91.5	6.6	1.2	0.7	0.5
Georgia	308,361	93.9	5.2	0.7	0.2	0.2
Hawaii	49,510	94.6	4.7	0.5	0.2	0.2
Idaho	32,452	92.2	5.7	1.2	0.9	0.8
Illinois	428,984	93.5	5.7	0.6	0.2	0.2
Indiana	198,184	92.8	5.6	1.0	0.6	0.5
Iowa	31,799	—	—	—	—	—
Kansas	67,170	92.3	5.6	1.3	0.8	0.6
Kentucky	209,885	94.0	4.5	1.0	0.5	0.5
Louisiana	254,497	96.2	3.2	0.4	0.2	0.1
Maine	54,528	—	—	—	—	—
Maryland	111,999	90.0	8.4	1.2	0.4	0.4
Massachusetts	124,201	92.9	5.7	0.9	0.5	0.5
Michigan	351,646	91.8	6.0	1.4	0.8	0.9
Minnesota	96,824	90.6	6.9	1.6	0.9	0.6
Mississippi	142,947	—	—	—	—	—
Missouri	243,648	94.3	4.6	0.8	0.3	0.3
Montana	28,876	92.9	5.0	1.3	0.8	0.8
Nebraska	41,611	89.0	7.8	1.9	1.2	0.6
Nevada	47,374	88.8	9.2	1.4	0.6	0.5
New Hampshire	20,798	91.0	5.8	1.8	1.5	1.0
New Jersey	155,115	91.8	6.9	1.0	0.3	0.3
New Mexico	74,256	93.1	5.5	0.9	0.6	0.5
New York	735,648	91.9	6.3	1.1	0.6	0.8
North Carolina	267,400	93.3	5.0	1.0	0.7	0.5
North Dakota	16,813	92.2	5.5	1.2	1.0	0.7
Ohio	367,801	93.5	5.7	0.5	0.2	0.2
Oklahoma	149,280	91.7	5.4	1.5	1.4	1.2
Oregon	179,255	94.1	4.4	1.0	0.5	0.6
Pennsylvania	365,835	93.1	5.3	1.0	0.6	0.3
Rhode Island	33,836	90.9	5.9	1.7	1.5	1.3
South Carolina	183,577	94.3	4.1	1.0	0.6	0.6
South Dakota	20,021	94.5	4.2	0.8	0.4	0.2
Tennessee	312,598	92.4	5.6	1.3	0.8	0.6
Texas	726,384	94.1	5.1	0.6	0.2	0.2
Utah	39,414	94.1	4.7	0.8	0.4	0.3
Vermont	13,649	94.6	4.2	0.8	0.4	0.3
Virginia	167,393	90.6	6.9	1.6	1.0	0.4
Virgin Islands	4,387	—	—	—	—	—
Washington	196,527	94.1	4.7	0.8	0.4	0.3
West Virginia	59,230	—	—	—	—	—
Wisconsin	110,849	90.4	7.0	1.7	1.0	0.6
Wyoming	9,955	95.4	3.8	0.5	0.3	0.2

— EBT was implemented during FY2003 and there were fewer than 12 months of data available for this analysis.
 Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Statistics are based on a sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month. For sampled households, EBT inactivity is based on data from all 12-months.

Table B-24a—Distribution of Case-Months of EBT Purchase Inactivity, Across Quarters of FY 2003

	Avg monthly number of households	Distribution of inactive months across quarters			
		October - December	January - March	April - June	July - September
Total U.S.	8,466,608	20.0%	26.7%	27.0%	26.3%
Alabama	182,866	19.2	25.8	27.3	27.6
Alaska	17,297	24.2	27.5	26.7	21.5
Arizona	183,585	20.6	26.5	26.3	26.6
Arkansas	123,640	21.7	26.4	27.8	24.0
California	220,739	—	—	—	—
Colorado	83,532	19.6	26.3	28.8	25.4
Connecticut	88,150	21.7	28.2	26.2	23.9
Delaware	11,443	—	—	—	—
District of Columbia	38,308	20.0	26.1	23.9	30.0
Florida	482,533	20.5	26.3	27.2	26.0
Georgia	308,361	20.0	26.7	26.1	27.2
Hawaii	49,510	20.6	25.3	28.6	25.4
Idaho	32,452	18.4	26.8	28.3	26.5
Illinois	428,984	20.5	28.0	26.5	24.9
Indiana	198,184	19.7	26.9	27.1	26.3
Iowa	31,799	—	—	—	—
Kansas	67,170	21.2	28.4	28.7	21.6
Kentucky	209,885	22.5	26.5	24.7	26.3
Louisiana	254,497	16.4	27.0	29.3	27.2
Maine	54,528	—	—	—	—
Maryland	111,999	19.6	25.8	28.1	26.5
Massachusetts	124,201	20.2	25.8	27.5	26.5
Michigan	351,646	21.1	26.5	27.2	25.2
Minnesota	96,824	20.0	25.2	25.4	29.4
Mississippi	142,947	—	—	—	—
Missouri	243,648	22.9	28.3	25.3	23.5
Montana	28,876	6.9	27.6	28.9	36.6
Nebraska	41,611	19.9	26.5	27.7	26.0
Nevada	47,374	19.0	24.7	27.9	28.4
New Hampshire	20,798	21.1	25.8	26.0	27.1
New Jersey	155,115	21.6	28.0	26.6	23.8
New Mexico	74,256	19.9	25.9	27.2	27.0
New York	735,648	21.8	25.9	25.7	26.6
North Carolina	267,400	20.2	26.4	26.9	26.5
North Dakota	16,813	21.0	27.9	26.8	24.3
Ohio	367,801	18.4	28.1	26.4	27.1
Oklahoma	149,280	19.3	27.1	27.4	26.2
Oregon	179,255	21.6	24.8	26.5	27.1
Pennsylvania	365,835	21.3	27.2	25.0	26.4
Rhode Island	33,836	20.1	26.2	27.1	26.5
South Carolina	183,577	19.4	26.4	28.4	25.8
South Dakota	20,021	20.4	26.1	23.6	29.8
Tennessee	312,598	18.0	25.8	28.7	27.5
Texas	726,384	18.8	28.2	28.3	24.8
Utah	39,414	19.2	26.0	26.0	28.8
Vermont	13,649	19.8	28.4	26.6	25.2
Virginia	167,393	21.8	28.1	26.1	24.0
Virgin Islands	4,387	—	—	—	—
Washington	196,527	19.5	25.3	26.6	28.7
West Virginia	59,230	—	—	—	—
Wisconsin	110,849	19.7	26.5	27.6	26.2
Wyoming	9,955	17.5	27.6	27.0	27.9

— EBT was implemented during FY2003 and there were fewer than 12 months of data available for this analysis.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Statistics are based on a sample of approximately 10,000 households per State and month. For sampled households, EBT inactivity is based on data from all 12-months.

Table B-25—Distribution of Households by Months of EBT Participation, FY2003

	Avg # months of participation	Number of months of participation				
		1-2 months	3-5 months	6-8 months	9-11 months	12 months
		<i>Percent distribution of households</i>				
Total U.S.	7.62	15.5%	20.0%	15.7%	19.4%	29.3%
Alabama	8.24	12.7	17.2	14.2	17.9	38.1
Alaska	7.07	15.9	23.7	19.6	18.8	21.9
Arizona	7.45	14.4	22.6	17.6	16.8	28.6
Arkansas	8.00	12.8	19.0	15.4	18.4	34.4
California ¹	5.11	29.9	32.8	18.4	9.3	9.6
Colorado	6.92	18.9	24.4	15.8	17.1	23.8
Connecticut	8.38	11.5	16.0	15.7	18.4	38.5
Delaware	1.60	82.0	18.0	—	—	—
District of Columbia	8.31	10.9	17.3	16.0	18.8	37.0
Florida	7.21	17.4	23.0	15.5	16.8	27.4
Georgia	8.08	12.5	19.0	14.8	18.3	35.3
Hawaii	8.73	10.5	15.6	12.5	15.4	46.1
Idaho	7.39	16.8	21.0	16.3	17.1	28.8
Illinois	7.35	17.4	17.4	14.4	50.9	—
Indiana	8.02	13.2	18.7	14.9	17.1	36.0
Iowa	1.48	100.0	—	—	—	—
Kansas	7.63	16.4	19.0	15.3	17.9	31.3
Kentucky	8.52	11.1	16.1	14.1	16.8	42.0
Louisiana	7.56	17.8	15.2	12.4	54.5	—
Maine	3.63	16.9	83.1	—	—	—
Maryland	7.88	14.6	18.7	14.6	18.5	33.6
Massachusetts	7.63	15.8	19.8	15.9	16.7	31.8
Michigan	8.00	12.7	20.1	14.4	16.9	35.8
Minnesota	7.32	17.5	21.4	15.4	18.1	27.6
Mississippi ¹	5.45	14.7	21.6	63.8	—	—
Missouri	8.13	12.7	17.9	15.2	17.7	36.4
Montana	8.01	13.9	17.7	15.2	18.6	34.6
Nebraska	7.40	16.2	22.1	15.0	17.8	28.8
Nevada	6.68	19.4	26.4	16.1	16.7	21.4
New Hampshire	7.46	16.9	20.2	16.0	17.1	29.8
New Jersey	8.11	12.6	19.1	14.1	16.8	37.2
New Mexico	7.50	15.3	21.6	15.8	17.9	29.4
New York	8.79	11.8	13.3	12.0	16.4	46.5
North Carolina	7.35	17.4	22.6	14.1	15.5	30.4
North Dakota	8.00	13.5	18.6	14.8	18.0	35.1
Ohio	8.21	11.9	17.9	14.3	22.1	33.8
Oklahoma	7.58	14.4	22.0	15.2	17.1	31.2
Oregon	7.82	13.0	18.9	18.7	18.1	31.2
Pennsylvania	8.44	13.0	15.0	13.2	18.0	40.8
Rhode Island	8.53	10.3	15.6	14.3	26.4	33.4
South Carolina	8.60	10.6	15.5	14.1	18.3	41.6
South Dakota	7.52	17.1	19.9	14.9	17.7	30.4
Tennessee	8.08	13.0	17.5	15.9	18.3	35.3
Texas	7.38	16.4	22.3	14.9	18.2	28.3
Utah	6.63	22.6	23.6	15.6	15.2	23.0
Vermont	7.38	16.5	21.7	16.2	16.1	29.4
Virginia	7.70	16.5	19.4	13.5	16.9	33.7
Virgin Islands	7.10	10.9	15.4	15.5	58.1	—
Washington	7.65	14.7	21.1	15.4	16.4	32.3
West Virginia ¹	5.71	12.2	30.6	51.5	1.8	3.8
Wisconsin	7.32	16.8	21.1	17.1	18.8	26.1
Wyoming	6.71	20.6	24.4	15.8	18.2	20.9

¹ EBT participation underestimates food stamp participation in California, Mississippi, and West Virginia. In these States, EBT was rolled out gradually and did not operate statewide for the full fiscal year.

– Not applicable. In 5 States, the number of months of EBT participation was limited because EBT operated for only part of the fiscal year: Delaware (4 months), Iowa (2 months), Maine (6 months), Mississippi (7 months) and Virgin Islands (9 months). Illinois, Louisiana, and North Carolina have only 11 months of usable ALERT data due to problems with the data files.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-26—Average Number of EBT Purchase Transactions Per Household: By Month, FY2003

	Average number of EBT purchase transactions, by month											
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Total U.S.	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.3	6.9	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.9	7.9	7.8
Alabama	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.2	6.8	8.0	7.6	7.8	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.5
Alaska	8.8	8.6	8.7	8.5	8.5	8.9	8.8	9.2	8.9	9.0	9.1	8.7
Arizona	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.0	8.8	8.7	9.1	8.9	9.0	8.9	8.8
Arkansas	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.3	6.9	7.9	7.8	8.0	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.6
California	8.6	8.4	7.8	8.0	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.1	8.2
Colorado	7.1	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.5	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.5	7.4
Connecticut	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.2	6.1	6.1
Delaware	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.7	6.2	6.3
District of Columbia	7.4	7.3	7.1	6.8	6.3	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.5	8.8
Florida	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.0	5.7	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.2
Georgia	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.9	6.5	7.4	7.2	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.2
Hawaii	13.0	12.9	12.9	12.6	12.0	12.9	12.6	13.0	12.9	12.8	12.9	12.5
Idaho	7.5	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.1	7.7	7.6	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.6
Illinois	8.4	8.3	8.3	7.8	7.5	8.4	8.3	8.7	8.6	—	8.8	8.2
Indiana	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.0	6.6	7.4	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.6
Iowa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.8	7.6
Kansas	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.1	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.0
Kentucky	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.0	6.7	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.6
Louisiana	9.7	9.1	—	8.7	8.2	9.3	9.1	9.4	8.9	9.1	9.0	9.0
Maine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.3	5.6	6.6	6.7	6.5
Maryland	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.0	6.3	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.9
Massachusetts	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.0	5.7	5.6	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.0
Michigan	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.6	6.3	6.8	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.4	8.7	7.6
Minnesota	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.2	5.8	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.6
Mississippi	—	—	—	—	—	7.7	7.4	7.8	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.4
Missouri	7.4	7.1	7.1	6.8	6.3	7.5	7.4	7.7	7.6	8.0	7.8	7.5
Montana	7.9	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.4	8.0	8.0	8.3	8.3	8.6	8.7	8.3
Nebraska	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.0	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.1	7.0
Nevada	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.3	6.7	7.8	6.6	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
New Hampshire	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.3
New Jersey	8.0	7.7	7.6	7.4	6.9	7.5	7.6	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.5	8.2
New Mexico	7.9	7.6	7.7	7.5	6.9	8.0	7.8	8.1	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.8
New York	9.5	9.1	9.1	8.8	8.3	9.2	9.1	9.4	9.4	9.7	9.8	10.0
North Carolina	7.0	6.9	7.4	6.7	6.3	7.0	—	7.2	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.0
North Dakota	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.1	6.9
Ohio	7.3	7.1	7.0	6.7	6.3	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.4
Oklahoma	8.7	8.5	8.5	8.2	7.7	8.3	8.6	9.0	8.7	8.9	8.8	8.7
Oregon	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.4	8.2	8.6	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.5
Pennsylvania	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.3	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.4
Rhode Island	7.2	6.6	6.8	7.2	6.2	6.7	6.8	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.2
South Carolina	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.6	6.2	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.8
South Dakota	8.1	7.9	8.1	7.6	7.3	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.0
Tennessee	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.4	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.1	7.6	7.5	7.1
Texas	8.5	8.2	8.3	7.8	7.3	8.2	8.1	8.4	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.1
Utah	8.0	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.3	8.3	8.0	8.4	8.2	8.6	8.4	8.2
Vermont	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.6	6.7	7.0	6.8	7.2	7.1	7.0
Virginia	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.7	7.2
Virgin Islands	—	—	—	9.3	8.9	9.3	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.5
Washington	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.6
West Virginia	6.3	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.0	6.8	7.0	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.3
Wisconsin	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.3	5.9	6.6	6.6	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.8
Wyoming	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.4	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.2	6.9	6.8

— EBT was not implemented in these months or data files were not usable (see note on Table B-25).
 Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-27—Average EBT Purchase Amount: By Month, FY2003

	Average EBT purchase amount, by month											
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
	<i>Dollar amounts</i>											
Total U.S.	\$25.2	\$25.6	\$26.0	\$26.5	\$27.6	\$26.0	\$25.8	\$25.2	\$25.4	\$25.1	\$25.4	\$25.6
Alabama	27.4	28.1	28.0	29.0	29.6	27.7	27.9	27.4	28.1	27.7	28.1	28.1
Alaska	36.4	36.6	36.5	37.3	37.3	36.2	35.9	34.5	35.0	35.2	35.3	35.8
Arizona	25.2	25.5	25.9	26.0	26.9	25.9	25.7	25.1	25.6	25.3	25.7	25.6
Arkansas	26.0	26.5	26.9	27.7	29.0	26.6	26.4	25.8	26.3	25.8	26.3	26.5
California	25.2	25.7	26.9	26.7	27.3	26.5	26.4	26.0	26.5	25.6	26.0	25.6
Colorado	28.0	28.7	28.8	28.8	30.1	29.1	28.5	27.8	27.9	27.0	27.5	28.1
Connecticut	26.3	27.0	27.1	27.6	29.0	28.0	27.5	26.6	26.3	25.8	26.2	26.4
Delaware	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29.4	29.9	30.6
District of Columbia	25.7	25.9	26.6	27.1	29.0	26.5	26.2	25.7	25.1	24.8	25.1	26.7
Florida	27.0	27.2	27.4	27.7	28.5	27.4	27.6	27.2	27.8	27.4	28.0	27.9
Georgia	28.7	29.0	29.2	30.1	31.0	29.0	29.3	28.6	29.2	28.7	29.2	29.1
Hawaii	20.2	20.5	20.7	20.5	21.2	20.4	20.7	20.4	20.5	20.5	20.6	21.0
Idaho	25.6	25.9	26.0	26.4	27.2	26.2	26.1	25.3	25.0	24.8	25.0	25.7
Illinois	23.8	24.6	24.7	25.4	26.4	25.0	24.4	24.0	23.9	—	23.7	24.2
Indiana	26.5	27.3	27.7	28.6	30.4	28.2	27.5	26.8	26.7	26.2	26.4	26.7
Iowa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24.1	24.2
Kansas	25.0	25.4	25.8	26.1	27.6	26.3	25.6	24.8	25.0	24.5	24.8	25.0
Kentucky	25.3	26.0	26.6	27.4	28.4	26.0	25.7	25.0	25.3	24.8	25.2	25.5
Louisiana	25.6	24.1	—	25.2	26.2	24.4	24.5	23.9	25.0	24.7	24.9	24.8
Maine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26.7	26.8	24.6	24.2	24.7
Maryland	24.8	25.1	26.2	26.3	29.1	26.0	25.7	25.4	25.1	24.8	25.1	26.8
Massachusetts	28.9	29.8	30.2	30.9	32.5	30.6	30.2	29.4	29.1	28.1	28.6	29.2
Michigan	25.1	25.8	26.3	27.0	28.2	27.1	26.6	25.7	25.2	24.7	24.8	24.8
Minnesota	29.3	30.0	30.2	31.1	32.4	30.2	29.8	28.8	28.6	28.1	28.3	29.0
Mississippi	—	—	—	—	—	25.9	26.8	26.0	26.7	25.9	26.8	26.7
Missouri	25.5	26.3	26.9	27.6	28.7	26.3	26.1	25.6	25.8	25.3	25.7	26.0
Montana	24.4	24.5	24.4	25.1	26.1	25.2	24.6	24.0	23.6	23.1	23.7	24.3
Nebraska	26.2	26.6	26.7	27.5	28.7	27.4	26.7	26.0	26.0	25.5	25.9	26.2
Nevada	26.9	27.6	28.0	27.9	28.4	27.7	24.6	26.2	26.4	26.3	26.4	26.2
New Hampshire	30.2	30.5	31.3	32.1	33.2	31.6	31.2	29.8	29.5	28.7	29.2	29.7
New Jersey	22.7	23.5	23.9	24.4	25.8	24.5	23.8	23.1	22.8	22.1	22.5	22.8
New Mexico	26.1	26.6	26.7	27.0	28.2	26.6	26.6	25.8	26.4	25.8	26.2	26.3
New York	19.6	20.3	20.7	21.1	21.9	20.7	20.7	20.0	19.8	19.5	19.7	20.0
North Carolina	27.8	28.2	28.9	29.2	30.6	28.5	—	27.8	28.0	27.6	28.2	28.7
North Dakota	25.7	26.2	26.5	27.1	28.5	27.5	26.4	25.7	26.0	25.3	25.3	26.0
Ohio	25.8	26.6	27.2	27.9	29.5	27.5	26.7	26.2	26.1	25.7	26.1	26.0
Oklahoma	23.1	23.7	23.9	24.3	25.8	24.3	23.6	22.7	23.4	22.8	23.2	23.4
Oregon	20.1	20.7	20.9	20.9	21.2	20.8	20.9	20.1	19.8	19.5	19.6	19.9
Pennsylvania	23.8	24.7	25.7	25.8	27.5	25.0	24.9	24.5	24.2	23.8	24.0	24.7
Rhode Island	23.8	25.4	25.1	24.8	27.4	25.8	25.1	24.0	24.0	23.2	23.6	23.7
South Carolina	29.0	29.3	29.4	30.1	31.4	29.8	29.8	29.0	29.4	29.0	29.7	29.4
South Dakota	25.6	26.4	26.0	27.3	27.9	25.8	26.1	25.6	25.3	24.7	25.2	25.5
Tennessee	26.5	27.0	27.2	28.2	29.0	27.1	26.8	26.4	26.7	26.7	26.8	26.6
Texas	26.0	26.2	26.1	26.9	27.8	26.4	26.2	25.6	26.6	26.7	26.7	26.8
Utah	26.0	26.5	26.5	26.7	27.4	26.3	26.3	25.4	25.4	25.0	25.3	25.8
Vermont	28.0	29.3	29.3	30.3	31.4	30.4	29.3	28.2	28.3	26.9	27.6	27.9
Virginia	26.2	26.7	27.2	27.6	29.4	27.5	26.9	26.4	26.4	26.0	26.5	28.3
Virgin Islands	—	—	—	38.0	39.3	38.5	38.5	38.3	38.7	38.5	38.9	40.1
Washington	22.0	22.4	22.7	22.8	23.2	22.5	22.5	21.8	21.4	21.2	21.5	21.7
West Virginia	26.8	25.2	25.7	25.7	29.6	26.4	25.6	24.5	24.1	23.4	23.9	24.1
Wisconsin	25.9	26.3	26.6	27.4	28.6	27.1	26.7	26.1	25.5	25.2	25.2	25.7
Wyoming	27.7	28.3	28.5	28.5	30.2	29.6	28.6	28.1	28.4	27.4	28.2	28.6

— EBT was not implemented in these months or data files were not usable (see note on Table B-25).
Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-28—Annual EBT Card Issuance, FY2003

	Number of cards issued	Avg number of cards per household	Percent of cards issued by reason			
			Regular card issuance	Lost or stolen card	Multiple cards for simultaneous use	New card after gap in participation
Total U.S.	16,772,090	1.29	77.9%	19.2%	0.8%	2.0%
Alabama	344,446	1.29	77.3	19.0	2.5	1.2
Alaska	36,681	1.25	80.1	15.7	1.6	2.6
Arizona	414,796	1.40	71.9	24.7	0.5	3.0
Arkansas	232,965	1.26	79.7	18.0	0.7	1.6
California	627,723	1.21	82.8	14.5	1.6	1.2
Colorado	187,417	1.29	77.6	19.2	0.0	3.1
Connecticut	161,080	1.28	78.3	19.0	0.1	2.6
Delaware	22,033	1.03	97.4	2.5	0.1	0.0
District of Columbia	82,362	1.49	67.5	30.4	0.1	1.9
Florida	946,824	1.18	84.9	13.3	0.4	1.4
Georgia	708,393	1.55	64.9	32.8	0.4	2.0
Hawaii	95,473	1.40	72.4	25.1	0.3	2.2
Idaho	66,107	1.25	80.0	17.4	0.3	2.2
Illinois	954,667	1.48	68.0	29.8	0.0	2.2
Indiana	358,187	1.21	82.8	15.0	0.8	1.5
Iowa	43,898	1.02	98.1	1.8	0.1	0.0
Kansas	133,886	1.27	79.2	18.4	0.9	1.6
Kentucky	359,122	1.22	82.3	15.5	0.0	2.2
Louisiana	461,843	1.25	80.4	18.1	0.0	1.5
Maine	78,249	1.04	96.0	3.8	0.0	0.2
Maryland	222,895	1.31	76.8	20.9	0.2	2.1
Massachusetts	253,157	1.30	77.4	19.8	0.4	2.4
Michigan	708,334	1.34	74.6	19.4	4.5	1.5
Minnesota	224,462	1.41	71.0	26.1	0.4	2.4
Mississippi	218,610	1.19	84.1	9.9	5.4	0.6
Missouri	460,807	1.28	78.1	19.6	0.4	1.9
Montana	51,622	1.19	84.2	13.9	0.5	1.4
Nebraska	79,434	1.18	84.9	13.0	0.0	2.1
Nevada	108,121	1.27	79.0	17.7	0.0	3.2
New Hampshire	39,485	1.18	84.8	13.1	0.2	1.9
New Jersey	307,911	1.34	75.1	23.3	0.1	1.6
New Mexico	155,235	1.31	76.9	20.6	0.0	2.5
New York	1,391,254	1.38	72.6	23.5	2.1	1.8
North Carolina	493,024	1.13	88.2	10.6	0.5	0.7
North Dakota	30,250	1.20	83.5	14.6	0.1	1.8
Ohio	654,204	1.22	82.2	14.3	0.0	3.6
Oklahoma	318,822	1.35	74.7	22.2	0.7	2.5
Oregon	380,198	1.38	73.0	22.4	1.5	3.1
Pennsylvania	682,098	1.31	76.7	21.6	0.2	1.6
Rhode Island	66,199	1.42	70.9	26.8	0.2	2.2
South Carolina	305,721	1.19	83.8	14.9	0.0	1.3
South Dakota	42,298	1.32	75.9	21.3	0.1	2.8
Tennessee	573,281	1.24	81.0	17.0	0.4	1.6
Texas	1,409,197	1.19	83.8	13.6	0.2	2.4
Utah	97,966	1.37	73.3	22.6	0.7	3.4
Vermont	26,543	1.20	83.7	14.8	0.0	1.5
Virginia	311,552	1.19	83.8	11.6	2.4	2.2
Virgin Islands	6,476	1.16	86.1	11.5	1.9	0.6
Washington	434,595	1.41	71.4	24.6	0.4	3.6
West Virginia	139,977	1.12	89.0	10.2	0.2	0.6
Wisconsin	241,027	1.33	75.5	20.9	1.0	2.6
Wyoming	21,183	1.19	84.1	11.6	0.0	4.3

Note: Number of cards per household is determined from the number of EBT card numbers per household account number in the ALERT data. Lost or stolen card is indicated by multiple cards per household, used within 60 days, with non-overlapping dates of use; 'multiple cards' is indicated by overlapping dates of use; and 'new card' is indicated by at least 60 days between use of different cards.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.

Table B-29—Annual Number of EBT Cards Issued Per Household, FY2003

	Percent of households by number of cards				Percent of households by reason for more than one card			Percent of households with more than one lost/stolen card
	One	Two	Three	Four or more	Lost or stolen	Multiple cards	New card	
Total U.S.	79.2%	15.8%	3.5%	1.6%	18.1%	1.0%	2.5%	4.4%
Alabama	77.3	17.9	3.5	1.3	19.4	3.1	1.5	3.8
Alaska	80.5	15.6	2.8	1.0	15.4	2.0	3.2	3.0
Arizona	73.6	18.2	5.1	3.2	22.9	0.6	4.1	7.0
Arkansas	80.5	15.3	3.1	1.2	17.2	0.9	2.0	3.7
California	83.7	12.9	2.4	0.9	13.5	1.8	1.4	2.8
Colorado	79.4	15.1	3.6	1.9	17.4	0.0	3.9	4.6
Connecticut	78.2	17.3	3.5	1.0	19.1	0.1	3.2	3.9
Delaware	97.4	2.4	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.1	0.0	0.1
District of Columbia	70.7	18.8	6.0	4.6	27.4	0.2	2.8	9.7
Florida	85.7	11.7	1.9	0.6	12.6	0.4	1.7	2.2
Georgia	57.2	33.8	7.0	2.0	40.1	0.6	3.0	8.1
Hawaii	73.4	18.5	5.0	3.1	23.7	0.4	3.0	6.9
Idaho	81.1	14.4	3.2	1.3	16.3	0.4	2.8	3.9
Illinois	70.2	19.2	6.3	4.3	27.4	0.0	3.2	9.6
Indiana	83.8	13.0	2.4	0.8	14.0	0.9	1.8	2.9
Iowa	98.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.1	0.0	0.0
Kansas	80.1	15.2	3.3	1.4	17.4	1.1	2.0	4.0
Kentucky	82.8	14.0	2.4	0.8	15.0	0.0	2.7	2.8
Louisiana	80.2	16.2	2.8	0.8	18.2	0.0	1.8	3.3
Maine	96.2	3.6	0.2	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.2	0.3
Maryland	78.4	15.7	3.8	2.0	19.2	0.2	2.7	5.2
Massachusetts	78.8	15.8	3.7	1.8	18.3	0.5	3.1	4.8
Michigan	75.3	18.5	4.1	2.0	18.5	5.8	2.0	4.8
Minnesota	75.1	16.2	5.0	3.8	22.1	0.6	3.4	7.9
Mississippi	83.1	15.1	1.6	0.2	10.5	6.2	0.7	1.1
Missouri	78.8	16.4	3.3	1.4	18.9	0.5	2.4	4.2
Montana	84.7	12.3	2.3	0.7	13.3	0.5	1.7	2.5
Nebraska	86.3	10.9	2.0	0.8	11.7	0.0	2.4	2.5
Nevada	80.6	14.5	3.4	1.5	16.3	0.0	4.0	4.1
New Hampshire	85.3	12.2	2.0	0.5	12.7	0.2	2.2	2.1
New Jersey	76.7	16.6	4.3	2.4	21.4	0.1	2.1	6.0
New Mexico	78.0	16.2	3.9	1.8	19.3	0.0	3.2	5.0
New York	74.6	17.2	5.5	2.7	22.4	2.7	2.4	6.6
North Carolina	88.3	10.3	1.2	0.2	10.6	0.5	0.8	1.2
North Dakota	83.7	13.5	2.1	0.6	14.4	0.1	2.2	2.4
Ohio	82.1	14.9	2.4	0.6	14.6	0.0	4.2	2.2
Oklahoma	76.0	17.1	4.5	2.4	20.6	0.9	3.3	5.9
Oregon	74.7	17.8	4.7	2.8	20.5	2.0	4.2	6.1
Pennsylvania	78.3	15.8	3.9	2.0	19.9	0.2	2.0	5.4
Rhode Island	73.6	17.6	5.3	3.5	23.9	0.2	3.0	8.1
South Carolina	83.9	13.6	1.9	0.6	14.8	0.0	1.5	2.3
South Dakota	76.2	17.7	4.2	1.8	20.8	0.1	3.6	5.2
Tennessee	82.3	13.8	2.8	1.2	15.8	0.5	2.0	3.5
Texas	84.5	12.7	2.1	0.7	12.9	0.3	2.8	2.3
Utah	75.7	16.8	4.6	3.0	20.2	0.9	4.6	6.3
Vermont	84.5	12.4	2.3	0.7	14.0	0.0	1.8	2.7
Virginia	84.0	13.4	2.0	0.6	11.2	2.9	2.6	1.9
Virgin Islands	85.8	12.3	1.5	0.3	11.6	2.2	0.7	1.5
Washington	74.1	17.6	4.9	3.4	21.9	0.5	4.9	7.1
West Virginia	89.5	9.1	1.2	0.3	9.8	0.2	0.6	1.3
Wisconsin	74.8	19.9	3.9	1.4	21.8	1.3	3.4	4.2
Wyoming	84.1	13.4	2.0	0.5	11.8	0.0	5.0	1.7

Note: Number of cards per household is determined from the number of EBT card numbers per household account number in the ALERT data. Lost or stolen card is indicated by multiple cards per household, used within 60 days, with non-overlapping dates of use; 'multiple cards' is indicated by overlapping dates of use; and 'new card' is indicated by at least 60 days between use of different cards.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service. EBT Redemption Transactions from ALERT System, FY2003. Average monthly statistics.