

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



Economic  
Research  
Service



# Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program

## Final Report Fiscal 2008 Activities

Economic Research for a Healthy, Well-Nourished America



*Food Assistance & Nutrition  
Research Program*

## Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program Contacts

**David Smallwood**, Program Director

**Victor Oliveira**, Research and Information

**John A. Kirlin**, Supplemental Nutrition  
Assistance Program Research

**Elizabeth Frazão**, WIC Research

**Joanne Guthrie**, Child Nutrition Research

**Alex Majchrowicz**, RIDGE Program

**Fax:** (202) 694-5677

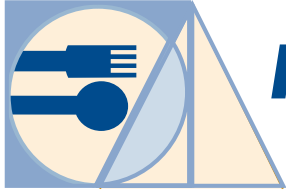
**E-mail:** [FANRP@ers.usda.gov](mailto:FANRP@ers.usda.gov)

**Website:** [www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/  
foodnutritionassistance](http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/foodnutritionassistance)

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# Food Assistance & Nutrition Research Program

## Chapter 1. The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program

In 1998, USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) created the Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) to study and evaluate the Nation's domestic food and nutrition assistance programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly the Food Stamp Program), the child nutrition programs, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC).<sup>1</sup> FANRP's mission is to conduct "economic research for a healthy, well-nourished America." Since its establishment, FANRP has become the premier source of food and nutrition assistance research in the United States. FANRP has supported research on a wide range of policy-relevant food and nutrition assistance topics, resulting in almost 700 peer-reviewed publications. FANRP has also enhanced national surveys by adding a food assistance dimension and broadened the participation of social science and nutrition science scholars in food assistance and nutrition policy issues.

This report provides a summary of FANRP and its activities in fiscal 2008. Chapter 1 provides a general overview of the program. Chapter 2 focuses on FANRP activities in fiscal 2008 (October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008) and includes a summary of all extramural projects funded in fiscal 2008 and a discussion of the year's key research accomplishments. Chapter 3 provides a list of all FANRP-sponsored publications released in fiscal 2008 as well as those released in previous years. Appendix A lists all the institutions, universities, and government agencies that have been awarded FANRP projects since FANRP started in 1998 (in fiscal 2008, FANRP awarded projects to five new institutions/universities: the Altarum Institute, Bryn Mawr College, Indiana University, Ohio State University, and Yale University). Appendix B identifies those who served as peer reviewers for FANRP's Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program in fiscal 2008.

<sup>1</sup>The 2008 Farm Bill changed the name of the Food Stamp Program to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). This report continues to use the older name because the name change did not occur until after the close of fiscal 2008 and the references to the program cited in this report were prior to the change.

### Research Goal

Food assistance and nutrition programs receive substantial Federal funding and affect the daily lives of millions of Americans. For example, in fiscal 2007, monthly participation in the Food Stamp Program averaged 26.5 million Americans at a Federal cost of about \$33 billion.<sup>2</sup> On a typical school day, some 10.2 million children participated in the School Breakfast Program and 30.5 million children participated in the National School Lunch Program, which together cost \$10.9 billion. On average, WIC served 8.3 million people each month at an annual cost of \$5.4 billion. At some point during the year, one in five Americans are estimated to participate in at least one of USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs. Expenditures for all of the food and nutrition assistance programs totaled \$54.5 billion in fiscal 2007. Given the significance of the food and nutrition assistance programs, it is important that FANRP provide objective, scientifically rigorous studies and evaluations. Our goal is a high-quality, multidisciplinary program that focuses on today's problems while addressing tomorrow's issues.

### Research Themes

FANRP's research on the food and nutrition assistance programs is designed to meet the critical needs of USDA, Congress, program managers, program participants, the research community, and the public at large. The three core areas of FANRP research are as follows:

- **Program Outcomes and Economic Well-Being of Participants**—USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs share the primary goal of ensuring the health of vulnerable Americans by providing access to a nutritionally adequate diet. Economic factors influence participant's behavior and the degree to which program goals are achieved. Through changes in food expenditures, the programs also influence the economic well-being of participants, food security, the depth and severity of poverty, and income volatility.

<sup>2</sup>Participation and expenditure figures are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service.

- **Program Access and Economic Determinants of Participation**—USDA seeks to ensure access for all who are eligible to participate in its food and nutrition assistance programs. The extent to which eligible individuals participate in programs and the factors that influence those decisions are key to measuring how well the program is reaching its target population. FANRP provides information on the population being served and on the eligible but unserved population to determine if the program is serving those who are most vulnerable and in need of program resources. Analysis of the economic factors affecting program participation allows policymakers and program analysts to better anticipate and forecast fluctuations in program participation and can influence budgetary decisions for the program.
- **Program Dynamics and Efficiency**—With increased Federal Government focus on accountability and efficiency, reliable and unbiased information on how the Nation’s food and nutrition assistance programs are administered and operated is increasingly important. An essential objective of FANRP is to provide research to policymakers that improves program operations. As such, FANRP has conducted a number of studies mandated by Congress. Because food and nutrition assistance programs interact with various industry sectors and markets, FANRP also conducts research on how the programs impact food prices and farm income.

Within these general themes, priority areas of research are selected annually. In developing the research priorities, FANRP works closely with USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), the agency responsible for administering the Department’s food assistance and nutrition programs. FANRP also seeks input from a broad constituency of policy officials, researchers, practitioners, advocates, industry groups, and service providers.

In conjunction with these activities, FANRP sponsors an annual roundtable discussion, open to the public, to identify crucial research and information needs that would support food assistance and nutrition programs and to ensure the policy and program relevance of the annual research agenda.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>The fiscal 2008 roundtable discussion, “Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Conference: Emerging Issues and Recent Findings and Emerging Issues,” was held December 6, 2007, at ERS in Washington DC. The conference agenda can be found at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/ConferenceCenter/fanrp/FANRPDecember2007/>.

## Intramural and Extramural Components

FANRP integrates an intramural and extramural research program. The intramural program, conducted internally by ERS staff, continues ERS’s long, distinguished history of conducting rigorous, objective, and policy-relevant research. The intramural program uses ERS’s large research capacity, taking advantage of the agency’s internal research capital and specialized knowledge base.

At the same time, FANRP funds extramural research, often conducted jointly with ERS staff, that draws upon the multidisciplinary expertise of outside researchers and the resources of such institutions as the National Academy of Sciences, National Science Foundation, National Bureau of Economic Research, Urban Institute, RAND Corporation, and numerous universities across the country.<sup>4</sup> FANRP funds the extramural projects through contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements.

Findings resulting from both intramural and extramural research are widely disseminated in accordance with FANRP principles.

<sup>4</sup>See appendix A for a list of all institutions, universities, and government agencies that have been awarded FANRP projects since its establishment in 1998.

### FANRP Principles

The program principles behind FANRP ensure the reliability and usefulness of the research.

- Research that meets the needs of all stakeholders—program participants, USDA, Congress, and the public.
- Integrated, comprehensive program that conducts research in the broader context of the current and future economic and social environments.
- Broad array of public and private entities directly involved in the research, evaluation, and review efforts.
- Integration of ERS staff expertise in the development, implementation, and accomplishment of research projects.
- Scientifically rigorous studies and evaluations with verifiable and unbiased results.
- Rigorous internal and external review of research results.
- Public availability of data.
- Wide distribution of research findings.
- Development and maintenance of continuous data sets.

## Key Accomplishments: Fiscal 1998-2007

Since its beginning in 1998, FANRP has conducted a wide range of research activities. This section highlights some of FANRP's key accomplishments during fiscal 1998-2007 in the areas of food and nutrition assistance research, data development, enhancing the research base, and research dissemination.

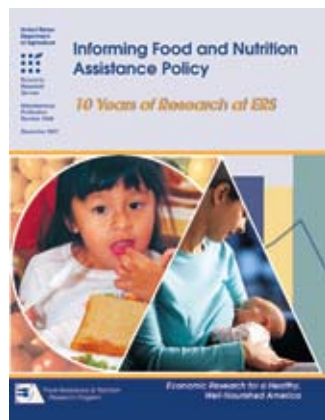
### Food Assistance and Nutrition Research

FANRP has developed a multifaceted research plan to address the needs of diverse groups of stakeholders that has resulted in an extensive portfolio of successful research projects. These projects have expanded understanding on a wide range of food and nutrition assistance issues, including program outcomes and economic well-being of participants, program access and economic determinants of participation, program dynamics and efficiency, and program interactions.<sup>5</sup>

In Fiscal 2008, FANRP published *Informing Food and Nutrition Assistance Policy: 10 Years of Research at ERS* (available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/MP1598/>).

The report, prepared at the 10-year anniversary of the FANRP program, highlights some of the key research conducted during the program's first decade.

The report discusses FANRP research that focuses on the main food and nutrition assistance programs—the Food Stamp Program, the child nutrition programs, and WIC—as well as topics that cut across food and nutrition assistance programs, such as linkages with the economy, income volatility, and welfare reform. The report also discusses research on other topics related to food assistance, including food security, childhood obesity, dietary reference standards and nutrition monitoring, and data development activities.



### Data Development

Data development is a high priority in FANRP because data sustain the program's research on food assistance programs and the environment in which they operate.

<sup>5</sup>See chapter 3 for a complete list of all FANRP-supported research publications.

An early FANRP study provided a comprehensive review and evaluation of national data sources for their potential for analyzing the impact of USDA's food assistance and nutrition programs on nutrition- and health-related outcomes. The resulting report provided an inventory of data sources (mostly national level) that can be used as a foundation for future food-assistance-related research (Logan et al., 2002). The report assessed data sources and identified those most worthy of investigation. Each data source was evaluated against three criteria: coverage of both program participants and nonparticipants, identification of participants and determination of eligibility among nonparticipants, and availability of impact measures. Thirteen data sources were classified as principal sources that appear to have the greatest potential for conducting research on food assistance and nutrition programs outcomes. Another 13 sources could be made more useful for food assistance research if questions were incorporated to fill gaps in relevant information.

Investments in new and ongoing data collections provide a critical foundation for addressing new and emerging food assistance issues. FANRP funding has enhanced food assistance data collection in a number of nationwide surveys:

- Since 1998, FANRP has sponsored the annual Food Security Supplement to the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The supplement provides the data used to develop national statistics on food insecurity.
- FANRP also provides funding for the U.S. Department of Education's Early Childhood Longitudinal Study (ECLS) which currently includes two cohorts that provide national data on children's status at birth and at various points thereafter through the eighth grade. Data from these two cohort studies are being used to test hypotheses about the effects of food assistance programs on a range of issues, including children's development, school performance, and obesity. In fiscal 2008, FANRP provided additional funding for a third cohort study that will consist of children who enter kindergarten in fall 2010.
- FANRP also helps support the collection of information about the nutritional status and diet of food assistance program participants through the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Brief descriptions of national surveys and data sets useful in food and nutrition assistance research are available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/FoodNutritionAssistance/data/>.

### **Expanding the Research Base**

FANRP's extramural research component uses two main mechanisms to promote research from a broad arena—the Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program and the RIDGE program.

#### ***The Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program***

This program awards grants and cooperative agreements up to \$400,000. The program is announced publicly via the ERS website, ERS e-mail updates, and postings on various listservs (e-mail-based discussion forums). The proposal evaluation process includes peer review panels consisting of experts from academia, government, and the private sector.<sup>6</sup> In addition to reviewer's comments, FANRP's selection process considers coverage of priority research areas, overlap between proposals and ongoing projects, program needs, potential benefits from research collaborations on particular projects, and availability of funding. FANRP's competitive grants and cooperative agreements program, with a description of the application process, typically is announced each year in mid-March. The deadline for submission of proposals is generally in late May, and the awards are announced in mid-October.

In fiscal 2006, FANRP implemented Grants.gov application procedures to the Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program. Grants.gov uses electronic technology to enhance the process of tracking Federal grant opportunities. Applicants can both search for and apply for grant funds online through a single access point (i.e., a common website), dramatically streamlining the application, review, and award process. Applications to the Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program are allowed in paper as well as in electronic form.

#### ***The Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics (RIDGE) Program***

Formerly known as the Small Grants Program, the program was renamed the Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics (RIDGE) program in 2006. The new name better reflects the program's

purposes: (1) to stimulate new and innovative research on food and nutrition policy issues and (2) to broaden the participation of social science scholars in the research effort.

The program supports both quantitative and qualitative research methods to explore economic, nutrition, and health outcomes of participation in USDA food assistance programs as well as issues surrounding program implementation and delivery. RIDGE grants last for 1 year; most are in the range of \$20,000-\$40,000.<sup>7</sup> Funded by ERS, the RIDGE program is administered through selected universities and their associated research institutes located at five sites. Each of the five institutions takes a different aspect of food assistance, nutrition, or subgroup of recipients as its primary focus. The five institutions and their area of focus are as follows:

***The Irving B. Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies, University of Chicago***—Interactions between food assistance and other welfare programs and linkages between the macroeconomy and food assistance.

***Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin***—Understanding the relationships among the food assistance safety net, poverty, and well-being.

***The American Indian Studies Program at the University of Arizona***—The relationship between family poverty and food assistance programs among Native Americans.

***The Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University***—The relationship between food assistance and rural people, families, and communities in the South.

***The Department of Nutrition at the University of California, Davis***—The impact of food assistance programs on nutritional risk indicators (clinical, anthropometric, biochemical, and dietary), food purchasing practices, and food insecurity.

A list of all 169 completed RIDGE projects and their summaries, searchable by keyword(s), research institution, investigator, and year awarded, is available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/FoodNutritionAssistance/Funding/RIDGEprojects.asp>

<sup>6</sup>Appendix B identifies those who served as peer reviewers for the Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program in fiscal 2008.

<sup>7</sup>FANRP sponsors an annual RIDGE Program Conference in which grant recipients present the results of their work on food assistance programs, food security, and nutrition. A copy of the agenda for the 2008 conference held on October 16-17, 2008, at ERS in Washington, DC, can be found at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/ConferenceCenter/FANRP/FANRPOctober08/Agenda.htm>



## Research Dissemination

In accordance with program principles, FANRP strives to make all of its research readily available and in accessible formats for a variety of technical and nontechnical audiences. To do this, FANRP uses publications and hosts and participates in various conferences. ERS-produced reports are the primary vehicle for documenting and showcasing FANRP research. ERS publishes an array of outputs for a variety of purposes and audiences. In 2005, ERS revamped its publication series. Economic Research Reports (ERRs) are a departmental series and are available in both paper and electronic form.<sup>8</sup> These technical or semitechnical reports present original economic analysis, findings, and implications primarily for public decisionmakers and researchers.

Other departmental series include Economic Briefs (EBs) and Economic Information Bulletins (EIBs). These nontechnical publications, intended for a broader audience, provide concise, timely insights from recent ERS research. *The Food Assistance Landscape* is an EIB that is published annually. It provides an overview of USDA's domestic food assistance programs, including recent program statistics, information on related economic and social indicators, and highlights of recent FANRP research (Oliveira, 2008).

Contractor and Cooperator Reports (CCRs), which result from FANRP's extramural research program and are available in electronic form only, are a component of the ERS effort to serve the public with e-government technologies and the ERS website.<sup>9</sup> The views expressed in CCRs, unlike reports in the departmental series, are those of the authors and not necessarily those of ERS or USDA (FANRP, in accordance with program principles, makes its research publicly available). In addition to the series of reports, articles on food assistance and nutrition-related topics are often featured in the ERS periodical, *Amber Waves*. All ERS publications are available at the ERS website.

FANRP research targeted to narrower, more technical audiences can be found in a wide range of professional journals.

Each year, ERS staff also present findings from FANRP research at numerous professional meetings across the country. The meetings are sponsored by such groups as the American Association of Food Stamp Directors, the National WIC Association, the School Nutrition

Association, the American Public Human Services Association, the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics, the Society for Nutrition Education, the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, and the American Agricultural Economics Association.

To encourage interaction among researchers and policymakers, FANRP organizes and sponsors conferences and workshops. Two are held annually—the RIDGE Program Conference and the Food Assistance Research

### Electronic Database of FANRP Research

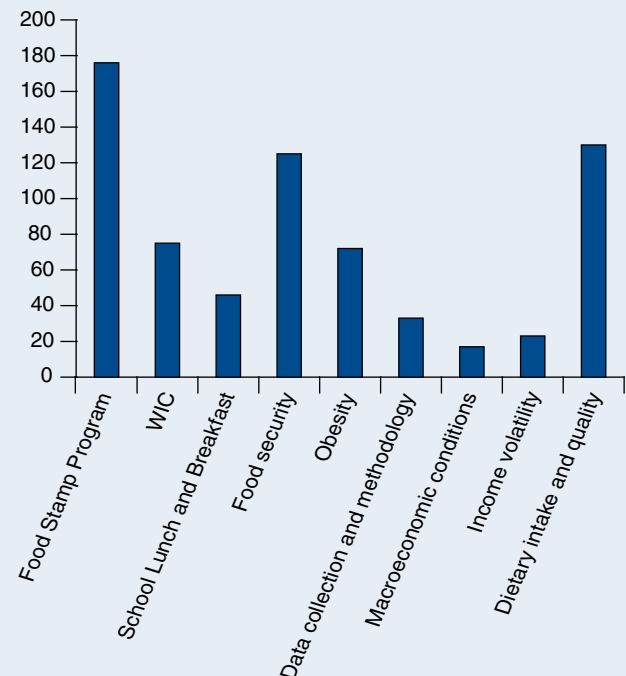
FANRP has compiled a web-accessible database of all peer-reviewed reports and articles based on FANRP-supported research published at ERS and elsewhere. The database is searchable by:

- Title
- Lead author
- Topic
- Year of publication
- Data set analyzed
- Word(s) or phrases contained in the publication's bibliographic citation

For all ERS-published reports and articles, a link to the full report is provided. The database can be accessed at: [www.usda.gov/Briefing/FoodNutritionAssistance/ResearchFindings/](http://www.usda.gov/Briefing/FoodNutritionAssistance/ResearchFindings/)

### FANRP Research Spans a Wide Array of Topics

Number of publications, FY 1998-2008



<sup>8</sup>ERRs replaced the Food and Nutrition Research Report (FANRR) series.

<sup>9</sup>CCRs replaced the Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program's E-FAN series.

Conference: Recent Research and Emerging Issues. Other conferences, often co-sponsored with other institutions, are hosted to address timely and policy-relevant topics. For example, in fiscal 2007, FANRP and the National Poverty Center co-sponsored a conference on Income Volatility and Implications for Food Assistance Programs. In previous years, FANRP hosted conferences on Food Security Measurement and Research, Rural Dimensions of Welfare Reform, and the Economics of Obesity.

### **FANRP Tomorrow**

Through its annual identification of priority research areas, FANRP responds to immediate as well as long-term research needs. FANRP will continue to seek input from key constituencies, such as policy officials, program and research leaders, and the Food and Nutrition Service to identify and prioritize research needs. FANRP will also continue to integrate intramural research with its extramural program, enhancing its capacity to address policy and research needs of USDA's food assistance and nutrition programs in a timely, objective, and cost-effective manner.

The following is a list of some of the important research projects funded by FANRP in previous years that are scheduled to be completed in the near future:

- Determinants of the Food Stamp Caseload
- Effects of Changes to State and Federal Asset Eligibility Policies for the Food Stamp Program
- Effective Tax Rates and Guarantees and Food Stamp Program Participation
- The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: Still an Acceptable Alternative to Food Stamps?
- WIC and the Economics of Infant Formula Contracts, Rebates, and Wholesale Prices
- The Economic Impact of School Meal Certification Approaches on the Uptake of Free- and Reduced-Price Meals
- The School Breakfast Program: Participation and Impacts
- Low-Income Families' Survival Strategies for Managing Shocks to Economic Well-Being
- Employment, Home Meal Production, Food Spending, and Food Security in Food Stamp Households

## Chapter 2. Fiscal 2008 FANRP Activities

This chapter describes FANRP activities in fiscal 2008. The first section focuses on FANRP's extramural program and includes a description of all FANRP projects funded in fiscal 2008. The second section summarizes some of the key research accomplishments resulting from FANRP's extramural as well as intramural components.

### Extramural Research Program, Fiscal 2008

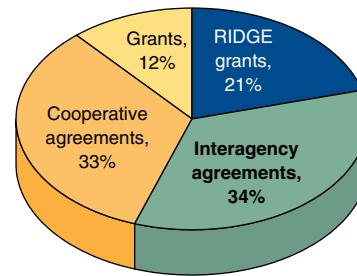
To meet the program needs of the Department and promote research from a broad arena, FANRP uses several different funding mechanisms in its extramural programs.

Grants and cooperative agreements are used when the intent is to stimulate new and innovative research or to undertake projects jointly with ERS researchers. Grants are awarded when the research project supports the general public good and does not require substantial involvement between ERS staff and the extramural researchers during the performance of the award. Cooperative agreements, awarded when the research project requires more substantial involvement between ERS and the extramural researchers, enable ERS staff to supplement their own expertise with the knowledge and resources of academic and private institutions.<sup>10</sup>

The Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program is publicly announced and competitively awarded based on peer review, research priorities, and availability of funding. Funding for seven cooperative agreements totaled \$1,262,239 in fiscal 2008. In addition, three competitive grants were awarded for

<sup>10</sup>There are two types of cooperative agreements: cooperative research agreements and assistance-type cooperative agreements. In a cooperative research agreement, ERS staff and the extramural researcher(s) are close collaborators and contributors to support the research. In an assistance-type cooperative agreement, the extramural researcher(s) are responsible for conducting the greater part of the work on the project. Cooperative research agreements require both parties to contribute to the funding of the project; assistance-type cooperative agreements do not have this joint funding requirement.

### Share of Extramural Awards by Type, Fiscal 2007



\$495,216. The acceptance rate for proposals of cooperative agreements and grants was about 1 in 4, or in dollar terms, roughly \$1 in \$6.

In addition, five cooperative agreements (including amendments to existing agreements and a visiting scholar program) were awarded outside the competitive program discussed above. These agreements, totaling \$172,853 were awarded to fill special research needs of the ongoing internal research program. For example, the largest award, in the amount of \$50,000, examines the economic factors affecting obesity in adults.

The RIDGE program funds grant competitions through five diverse institutions. Each institution focuses on a particular facet of food assistance, such as diet and health outcomes, relationships to poverty and well-being, rural issues, and special at-risk population groups. Funding for the program totaled \$899,562 in fiscal 2008.

Interagency agreements are used to enhance food assistance data development through cost-sharing partnerships and to fund cooperative interagency research on program interactions and policy issues. Funding for interagency projects and other data purchases totaled \$1,473,918, including funding for data collection in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, Early Childhood Longitudinal Studies, and the Food Security Supplement to the Current Population Survey.

In previous years, contracts have been used when a very specific product is required, such as data collection. No contracts were awarded in fiscal 2008.

**Table 1—FANRP Extramural Research Projects, Fiscal 2008**

Research Projects/Awards	Objective	Estimated Cost
<p><i>Food Choices: Economic Determinants and Consequences</i></p> <p><b>Long-Term Effects of Food Stamp Receipt During Childhood on Adult Outcomes</b> Bryn Mawr College</p>	<p>To assess whether receiving food stamps during childhood affects adult outcomes, such as Body Mass Index (BMI), food insecurity, health, physical activity levels, and various economic outcomes, by using longitudinal data from the Panel Survey of Income Dynamics (PSID). The study will also examine the relationship between receiving food stamps during childhood and adult outcomes in terms of neighborhood characteristics during childhood to determine whether food stamp receipt is less advantageous for children living in more disadvantaged neighborhoods.</p>	<p><b>\$110,605</b></p>
<p><b>Access to Healthy Foods: The Role of Market Competition, WIC Policy, and Vendor Attitudes</b> Yale University</p>	<p>To examine how market factors, the 2007 revisions in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) food packages, and food vendor attitudes influence access to affordable healthy foods by low-income families in Connecticut. In addition, administrative data will be used to monitor changes in the number, type, and location of WIC-authorized vendors throughout the State of Connecticut following the implementation of the WIC food package revisions.</p>	<p><b>\$229,611</b></p>
<p><b>Household Routines and the Development of Obesity in U.S. Preschool Children</b> Ohio State University</p>	<p>To examine the prospective association between childhood obesity and the presence of household routines around family meals, sleep, television, and outdoor play by using data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Birth Cohort (ECLS-B). The study will also determine whether associations between obesity and the presence of routines differ by income eligibility for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and/or maternal obesity status.</p>	<p><b>\$155,000</b></p>
<p><b>The Effect of WIC on Household Food Expenditures: Assessing Available Data</b> Iowa State University</p>	<p>To assess the viability and suitability of using ACNielsen Homescan data to analyze the effects of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) on household food purchases. ACNielsen Homescan is a consumer-based survey of food purchases collected from a large, national panel of households. Survey participants use a customized electronic device in their homes to scan the barcodes of the products they purchase and to record the price, quantity purchased, date purchased, and type of store where purchased.</p>	<p><b>\$50,050</b></p>

Continued—

**Table 1—FANRP Extramural Research Projects, Fiscal 2008—Continued**

Research Projects/Awards	Objective	Estimated Cost
<i>Economic Incentives in Food Assistance Programs</i>		
<p><b>State Trends in Food Stamp Program Eligibility and Participation Among Elderly Individuals</b>                      Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.</p>	<p>To examine State trends in Food Stamp Program (FSP) eligibility and participation among elderly individuals. The study will compare and assess the characteristics of elderly FSP participants and eligibles to understand why some groups of elderly individuals do not participate and determine if some groups have a greater need for nutrition assistance than others.</p>	<p><b>\$179,145</b></p>
<p><b>Effects of Change From Universal-Free to Eligibility-Based School Breakfast Program</b>                      The University of North Carolina</p>	<p>To investigate the financial, participation, attendance, health, behavioral, and academic changes associated with a change from a universal-free to an eligibility-based School Breakfast Program. The study uses data obtained as a result of changes in policy in the Guilford County school system in North Carolina.</p>	<p><b>\$250,000</b></p>
<p><b>Effects of Changes in WIC Food Packages on Redemptions</b>                      Altarum Institute</p>	<p>To examine the impact of the 2007 revisions in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) food package on participant food choices and acceptance of the food package and cost neutrality by using point-of-purchase data from a select set of WIC retailers in Wisconsin. This quantitative analysis will be supplemented by qualitative data collected from focus groups with participants who are new to WIC since the food package was revised and with participants familiar with the old food package in order to identify possible reasons or motives behind any observed changes in food choices.</p>	<p><b>\$237,873</b></p>
<p><b>Developing a Conceptual Model of the Determinants of USDA School Meal Participation at the School Level</b>                      University of Illinois</p>	<p>To characterize school-level participation in USDA's school meals programs (the School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program) at the free, reduced-price, and full-price levels. The study will use this information to develop a conceptual model of school-level determinants of school meals program participation. The study will use data from a new study, Food &amp; Fitness, by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.</p>	<p><b>\$34,245</b></p>
<i>Food Assistance as an Economic Safety Net</i>		
<p><b>Effects on Childhood Obesity of Participation in Multiple Nutrition Assistance Programs</b>                      Indiana University</p>	<p>To examine the shortrun and longrun effects on childhood obesity of participating in three Federal food assistance programs—National School Lunch, School Breakfast, and Food Stamp programs—by using data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Kindergarten Class (ECLS-K). Impacts of both single and multiple program participation will be estimated.</p>	<p><b>\$200,000</b></p>

Continued—

**Table 1—FANRP Extramural Research Projects, Fiscal 2008—Continued**

Research Projects/Awards	Objective	Estimated Cost
<p><b>Effects of Immigration on WIC and National School Lunch Program Caseloads</b> The Urban Institute</p>	<p>To estimate the relative contributions of increased immigration, both legal and unauthorized, to increased participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and the National School Lunch Program based on data from the Current Population Survey (CPS).</p>	<p>\$144,765</p>
<p><b>Children’s Food Security and Intakes from School Meals</b> Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.</p>	<p>To examine the reliance of children from food-insecure households on USDA’s school meals programs to meet their nutrition needs compared with children from food-secure households. Children’s intakes of nutrients, food groups, and calories will be examined using data from USDA’s School Nutrition Dietary Assessment Study-III (SNDA-III).</p>	<p>\$200,406</p>
<p><b>The Economics of Obesity in the NLSY79 Panel</b> Iowa State University</p>	<p>To examine the economic factors affecting obesity in adults using the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. The study will build upon previous research by adding geo-coded local market conditions and other related factors.</p>	<p>\$50,000</p>
<p><i>Research Outreach</i></p>		
<p><b>RIDGE Program</b></p>	<p>To stimulate new and innovative research on food assistance programs and to broaden the participation of social science scholars in food assistance research. Five academic institutions and affiliated research institutes partnered with ERS in 1998 to administer the RIDGE (formerly Small Grants) Program. Each institution focuses on a particular facet of food assistance, such as diet and health outcomes, relationships to poverty and well-being, rural issues, and special at-risk population groups. The five institutions and areas of focus are as follows:</p>	<p>\$899,562</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Irving B. Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies, University of Chicago</b> funds proposals on interactions between food assistance and other welfare programs and links between the macroeconomy and food assistance. <b>(\$179,999)</b></li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Southern Rural Development Center, Mississippi State University</b> supports food assistance research on rural people, families, and communities in the South. The Center also initiated a dialogue among scholars by establishing a Rural South Food Assistance Research Task Force to further articulate research priorities on food-assistance related issues. <b>(\$180,000)</b></li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The American Indian Studies Program, University of Arizona</b> is working with Native American scholars at tribal colleges and elsewhere to support research that addresses the unique issues and problems of Native Americans with respect to food assistance. <b>(\$179,565)</b></li> </ul>	

Continued—



**Table 1—FANRP Extramural Research Projects, Fiscal 2008—Continued**

Research Projects/Awards	Objective	Estimated Cost
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Department of Nutrition, University of California, Davis</b> has awarded small grants for research on the impact of food assistance programs on nutritional risk indicators (anthropometric, biochemical, clinical, and dietary), food purchasing practices, and food insecurity. This program seeks to encourage the study of multiple indicators of nutrition impact and interdisciplinary approaches to integrate epidemiology, economics, or anthropology with nutrition. <b>(\$179,998)</b></li> <li>• <b>The Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin</b> awards research grants that examine the relationship among the food assistance safety net, poverty, and well-being. <b>(\$180,000)</b></li> </ul>	<b>\$39,021</b>
<b>Visiting Scholar Program</b> George Washington University	To examine the feasibility of linking food assistance program administrative data to existing national surveys. Under-reporting of program participation in national surveys is well-documented. Linking administrative data to such surveys as the Survey of Income and Program Participation can improve management of food and nutrition assistance programs by increasing understanding of the characteristics of program participants and eligible nonparticipants.	
<i>Enhanced Food Assistance Research Data</i>		
<b>Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Birth Cohort (ECLS-B)</b> National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education	To include the following in the ECLS-B: items on the participation of children and their families in Federal food assistance programs and other public assistance programs, items on child feeding practices, USDA's food security questionnaire module, and measures of children's length/height and weight.	<b>\$167,639</b>
<b>Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Kindergarten Cohort (ECLS-K)</b> Department of Education	To include the following in the new ECLS-K consisting of children entering kindergarten in fall 2010: items on children's participation in the School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs, items on their families' participation in Federal food assistance programs and other public assistance programs, and USDA's food security questionnaire module.	<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>Current Population Survey (CPS) Food Security Supplement</b> U.S. Census Bureau	To develop annual estimates of the prevalence of food security in the United States and to provide data for analysis of the determinants of and changes in the level of food security. This project funds data collection activities for December 2007 and December 2008.	<b>\$922,500</b>
<b>National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, Food Security Questions</b> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	To support inclusion of a battery of food security questions in individual interviews of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.	<b>\$148,000</b>

Continued—

**Table 1—FANRP Extramural Research Projects, Fiscal 2008—Continued**

Research Projects/Awards	Objective	Estimated Cost
<p><b>Infant Formula Sales Data</b> The Nielsen Company, Inc.</p>	<p>To purchase scanner-based data on infant formula sales in grocery and other stores during 2004-08. Over half of all infant formula sold in the United States is purchased through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The data will be used to examine the impact of the WIC program on the U.S. infant formula market. (Note: The ERS Consumer Data Program provided \$100,000 of additional support.)</p>	<p><b>\$35,279</b></p>
<p><i>Amendments to Ongoing Projects</i></p>		
<p><b>Creating a WIC Infant Formula Rebate Data Set and Researching Infant Formula Manufacturers' Rebate Bidding Strategies</b> South Dakota State University</p>	<p>To extend the conceptual and empirical models of infant formula bidding extended to (1) examine the factors that affect the winning bid, and (2) adapt and apply the auction models developed by Porter to investigate unusual bidding strategies and patterns.</p>	<p><b>\$30,000</b></p>
<p><b>Effects of Changes to State and Federal Asset Eligibility Policies for the Food Stamp Program</b> Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.</p>	<p>To conduct additional microsimulations of raising the asset level threshold for households that are otherwise income-eligible for the Food Stamp Program to understand which demographic groups are most affected by the asset limits.</p>	<p><b>\$19,587</b></p>

*Note:* Information on extramural FANRP research projects awarded in fiscal 2007 can be found in the report *Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program: Final Report, Fiscal 2007 Activities*.  
 Information on extramural FANRP research projects awarded in fiscal 2006 can be found in the report *Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program: Final Report, Fiscal 2006 Activities*.  
 Information on extramural FANRP research projects awarded in fiscal 2005 can be found in the report *Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program: Final Report, Fiscal 2005 Activities*.  
 Information on all extramural FANRP research projects awarded before fiscal 2005 can be found in the report *Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program: Final Report, Fiscal 2004 Activities*.  
 These reports can be accessed at <http://www.usda.gov/Briefing/FoodNutritionAssistance/ResearchFindings/>

## Key Research Accomplishments, Fiscal 2008

Findings from FANRP's intramural and extramural programs were published in 50 ERS research reports or other peer-reviewed scientific journals in fiscal 2008. This section presents highlights from some of these publications in the areas of program outcomes and economic well-being of participants, program access and economic determinants of participation, and program dynamics and efficiency.

### Program Outcomes and Economic Well-Being of Participants

Each year since 1998, FANRP has published an annual statistical report on the level of household food insecurity in the United States that informs policymakers and the public about the extent to which U.S. households consistently have economic access to enough food. The 2006 household food security report indicated that, throughout the year, 89.1 percent of U.S. households were food secure, meaning that they had access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members (Nord et al., 2007). The remaining 10.9 percent (12.6 million households) were food insecure at least some time during the year. These households, at some time during the year, had difficulty providing enough food for all their members due to a lack of resources. About one-third of food-insecure households (4.6 million, or 4.0 percent of all U.S. households) had very low food security. In these households, the food intake of some household members was reduced and their normal eating patterns were disrupted because of the household's food insecurity. Just over half of all food-insecure households participated in one or more of the three largest Federal food and nutrition assistance programs during the month prior to USDA's annual Food Security Survey.

The increase in the prevalence of overweight and obesity in children is one of the most serious public health concerns in the United States today. Child obesity poses short- and long-term health risks and may have negative social and economic consequences in adulthood. Gable et al. (2008) used data on children followed from kindergarten through third grade to examine the predictors of persistent overweight and associated academic and socioemotional outcomes. Results show that socioeconomic status, gender, race, and behavioral and environmental factors influence risk of persistent overweight. For example, as family socioeconomic status decreased, the odds of membership in the persistently overweight

group increased. Of the two genders, boys were more likely to be members of the overweight group and, in comparison to White/non-Hispanic children, children of American Indian backgrounds were also more likely to be overweight. Above and beyond socioeconomic and demographic factors, family and environmental factors also were significant. For example, for each additional hour of television children watched per week, their odds of being overweight increased 3 percent and for each family meal per week that children did not experience, their risk for overweight increased 9 percent. Children living in neighborhoods rated by parents as less safe for outdoor play were also at increased risk of being persistently overweight. Overweight children progressed less than their nonoverweight peers did in reading and math achievement, with overweight appearing to precede academic difficulties, and were rated lower on academic and socioemotional factors by their teachers and themselves.

Another study by Bhargava et al. (2008) examined the relationship between household food insecurity and obesity in children enrolled in 1st, 3rd, and 5th grades. They concluded that household food insecurity was unlikely to exacerbate childhood obesity in the United States. However, they did find that higher parental education and household incomes, physical exercise, and the number of siblings were associated with lower body weight in children. In contrast, poor health, time spent watching television, and nonparental care were associated with higher body weight in children.

Although meals served through the National School Lunch Program are federally regulated, competitive foods sold elsewhere in the school, such as at snack bars and in vending machines are not, except for foods of minimal nutritional value. Cullen et al. (2008) assessed the effect of the Texas Public School Nutrition Policy—a set of guidelines that apply to all school food sources (including vending machines) in an effort to promote a healthy school environment for Texas students—on middle school students' lunchtime food consumption. After the policy's implementation, student lunch consumption of vegetables, milk, and several nutrients (protein, fiber, vitamins A and C, calcium, and sodium) increased, and consumption of less desirable items (sweetened beverages and snack chips) decreased, as did the percentage of energy from fat. Fewer sweetened beverages, candy, chips, and dessert foods were purchased and consumed by students, but more of these items were brought from home and purchased from the snack bar. The authors concluded that State school nutrition policies can improve the healthfulness of foods consumed by students at lunch.

Discrepancies between actual consumption and recommendations, as outlined in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, have fueled interest in ways to promote consumption of fruits and vegetables, especially among low-income households. A study by Stewart and Blisard (2008) expanded on past analyses of food spending by low-income households to explore two issues that may enable better targeting of nutrition funding and education. First, if a household earns less than 130 percent of the poverty line, on what types of foods might it allocate a portion of any small increase in income? Second, does a household's income need to rise much higher than 130 percent of the poverty line before spending increases on fruits and vegetables? Results of the study show that, in 2003, households earning below 130 percent of the poverty line spent less than higher income households on six out of seven food types examined in this study. However, the study found that these households, when given a small increase in income, allocate more money to only two out of the seven products—beef and frozen prepared foods. Focus group analyses suggest that beef and frozen prepared foods may be priorities over fruits and vegetables for reasons of taste and convenience. However, it appears that a household's income does not need to rise much higher than 130 percent of the poverty line—a cutoff for the Food Stamp Program—before the average household allocates additional resources to fruits and vegetables, given a small increase in income. A positive income effect is found among households earning between 130 and 185 percent of the poverty line. Among such households, a 10-percent increase in income prompts a 1.15-percent and 1.93-percent increase in fruit and vegetable expenditures, respectively.

### **Program Access and Economic Determinants of Participation**

The effectiveness of the Food Stamp Program depends on the extent to which it reaches those who are entitled to benefits. In 2003, about 56 percent of those eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program actually participated. The participation rate varied substantially across States, ranging from a high of 83 percent in Oregon to a low of 43 percent in Massachusetts. A study by Cody et al. (2008) examined factors that help to explain the variation. Results show that different population characteristics across States are a major factor because different types of eligible people tend to participate at different rates. States with a higher share of households headed by elderly people had lower rates, while those with a higher share of households

without earnings and headed by nonelderly people had higher participation rates. Yet, substantial variation remained after “standardized” State participation rates were calculated that adjust for these compositional differences. Attempts to further explain these standardized rates by State policies and economic conditions were unsuccessful, perhaps due to the limited sample size and imprecise measures of policies.

In the mid- to late 1990s, participation in the Food Stamp Program fell sharply. In recent years, it rebounded somewhat, reaching 65.1 percent in 2005. Changes in participation patterns can be attributed partly to economic fluctuations, but they are also shaped by the rapidly changing State policy environment. Ratcliff et al. (2008) examined the effects of policy on program participation. Their findings show strong evidence that some food stamp policy reforms made after 1999 (such as more lenient vehicle-exemption policies, longer recertification periods, and expanded categorical eligibility) increased food stamp participation. However, the use of biometric technology, such as fingerprinting, lowered participation. The study found less consistent evidence that more lenient immigrant eligibility rules, simplified reporting, Electronic Benefit Transfers, or outreach spending raised food stamp participation.

The 2002 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act—also known as the “Farm Bill”—restored food stamp benefits to noncitizen legal immigrants who were made ineligible by the 1996 welfare reform law. Henderson, et al. (2002) examined the impact of the Farm Bill's eligibility restorations on food stamp use by legal immigrants. They estimated that by 2004, the year following the full implementation of the Farm Bill provisions, the restorations had extended eligibility to roughly 1 million legal immigrants and 148,000 additional families. An estimated 139,000 legal immigrant families and 780,000 individuals received food stamps as a result of the Farm Bill provisions. Although the restorations made a substantial number of families newly eligible for food stamps—in other words, no one in the family was eligible before the restorations, but at least one person was eligible afterwards—the biggest impact of the bill was on families that had at least one eligible member before the restorations (usually a U.S. citizen child) but other members (usually noncitizen parents) that later became eligible. For these families, median annual benefits rose by several hundred dollars because of the restorations, and in turn higher benefits gave these families greater incentive to participate in the Food Stamp Program.

## Program Dynamics and Efficiency

Isaacs (2008) compared the Food Stamp Program with eight other public assistance programs across four measures of program effectiveness—administrative costs, error payments, program access, and benefit targeting. The comparison included two other nutrition assistance programs (WIC and the National School Lunch Program), three cash assistance programs, and three programs providing noncash benefits other than food or nutrition assistance. Results show that the Food Stamp Program and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) present contrasting patterns. The EITC program has lower administrative costs and higher program access rates than the Food Stamp Program, but the Food Stamp Program is more successful in limiting overpayments. Missing information makes it hard to generalize across the other programs, but there is some evidence suggesting that programs with higher errors have lower administrative costs. Low administrative costs also appear to be inversely associated with good program access for recipients. Also, programs that are more highly targeted tend to have higher benefit delivery costs.

Preventing and detecting certification errors in the Food Stamp Program is a major policy concern. In 2005, the cost of overpayments was \$1.29 billion, about 4.5 percent of the \$28.6 billion in benefits issued. Logan et al. (2008) examined the State-level relationships between Food Stamp Program certification error rates and certification expenditures, program policies, caseload characteristics, and economic conditions. The results show that, during the study period of 1989-2005, a 10-percent increase in certification “effort”—about \$35 per participating household—would reduce an index of certification errors by 2 percent (0.3 percentage points out of a mean of 15.1 percent). The effect of certification effort was significantly smaller between 1997 and 2002, when States were implementing welfare reform. Key simplification policies authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill were estimated to jointly reduce the error index by 4.4 percentage points.

The National School Lunch Program is the Nation’s second largest food and nutrition assistance program. In 2006, it operated in over 101,000 public and nonprofit private schools and provided over 28 million low-cost or free lunches to children on a typical school day at a Federal cost of \$8 billion for the year. A report by Ralston et al. (2008) provides background information on the program, including historical trends and participant characteristics. It also addresses steps being taken to meet challenges facing administrators of the

program, including tradeoffs between nutritional quality of foods served, costs, and participation, as well as between program access and program integrity.

Each month, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) provides supplemental food packages to about a half a million low-income pregnant and postpartum women, children younger than 6, and seniors 60 and older. A study by Finegold et al. (2008)—the first in-depth study of the program since 1982—looked at how CSFP operates, who participates in it, and how it fits into the overall food assistance landscape. The study estimated that 2.9 million mothers, infants, and children meet eligibility requirements for CSFP but not for WIC. An estimated 7.5 million seniors would be eligible for CSFP if it were available everywhere. In eight States where the program is widely available, more seniors participated in CSFP than in the Food Stamp Program. Use of volunteers, staff stability, and the small scale of operations contributed to CSFP’s simplicity and accessibility. Focus group participants liked the program’s simplicity, the quality of the food it provides, and the nutrition education they received.

The *Food Assistance Landscape* is an annual ERS publication that uses data from the Food and Nutrition Service to examine trends in USDA’s domestic food and nutrition programs. The fiscal 2007 report indicates that Federal expenditures for USDA’s food assistance programs totaled almost \$54.3 billion in fiscal 2007, over 2 percent more than in the previous fiscal year (Oliveira, 2008). This rise marked the seventh consecutive year in which food assistance expenditures increased and the fifth consecutive year in which they exceeded the previous historical record. The five largest food assistance programs—the Food Stamp Program, the National School Lunch Program, WIC, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the School Breakfast Program—accounted for 95 percent of USDA’s expenditures for food assistance. Each of the five major programs expanded (in terms of expenditures) to varying degrees during fiscal 2007. The slight decrease in food stamp participation in fiscal 2007 was attributed to the rise in food stamp participation in early fiscal 2006 when food stamp assistance was provided to victims of Hurricanes Katrina, Wilma, and Rita in the Gulf Coast States.

Wilde et al. (2008) developed the Thrifty Food Plan Calculator, a web-based tool for learning about tradeoffs between the nutrition quality and costs of foods available in the United States. Visitors to the website are challenged to create a nutritious, affordable, and tasty food plan that meets their nutrition

policy goals. This challenge is similar to the task faced by USDA nutritionists and economists when they developed the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP). The maximum benefit level in the Food Stamp Program is based on the cost of the TFP. Every several years, USDA's Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion (CNPP) revises the TFP to take account of new trends in food prices, food characteristics, and consumer spending behavior. To create the TFP, USDA used a mathematical algorithm that selected quantities for each food group. The quantities were chosen to be as similar as possible to the current average consumption of low-income Americans,

while simultaneously meeting a cost target, nutrition standards, target levels for broad categories of foods (such as meats, dairy foods, fruits, and vegetables), and other constraints. The TFP Calculator is based on the same price, consumption, and nutrition data that USDA used to create the official 2006 food plan. Visitors can design their own new food plan by choosing monthly spending levels for 58 food groups. The TFP Calculator (available at [http://nutrition.tufts.edu/1184937205502/Nutrition-Page-nl2w\\_1217581232594.html](http://nutrition.tufts.edu/1184937205502/Nutrition-Page-nl2w_1217581232594.html)) provides information on how the plan performs in terms of cost, dietary quality, and similarity to current consumption.



## Chapter 3. FANRP Publications

This chapter provides a list of all publications sponsored by FANRP (either directly or through the RIDGE Program). A list of all the publications released in fiscal 2008 is presented first, followed by a list of all the publications released in previous years. Within each list, two categories of publications are listed: (1) monographs and journal articles, and (2) working/discussion papers. Electronic copies of all ERS publications are available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/>.

### Fiscal 2008 Publications

#### Monographs and Journal Articles

- Bezuneh, M., Z. Yiheyis, P. del Rosario, and L. Ortiz. *Measuring Food Security in the Dominican Republic: Adaptation of the U.S. Food Security Survey Module*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 47, USDA, ERS, August 2008.
- Bhargava, A., D. Jolliffe, and L. Howard. "Socio-Economic, Behavioural and Environmental Factors Predicted Body Weights and Household Food Insecurity Scores in the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Kindergarten," *British Journal of Nutrition*, Vol. 100, Issue 2, August 2008.
- Cody, S., A. Schirm, E. Stuart, L. Castner, and A. Zaslavsky. *Sources of Variation in State-Level Food Stamp Participation Rates*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 37, USDA, ERS, March 2008.
- Cullen, K., K. Watson, and I. Zakeri. "Improvements in Middle School Student Dietary Intake After Implementation of the Texas Public School Nutrition Policy," *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 98, No. 1, January 2008.
- Dollahite, J., D. Kenkel, and S. Thompson. "An Economic Evaluation of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program," *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, Vol. 40, Issue 3, May 2008.
- Elkin, S., and L. Turner. *Longer Run Earnings and Food Stamp Participation*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 46, USDA, ERS, July 2008.
- Finegold, K., F. Kramer, B. Saloner, and J. Parnes. *The Role of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) in Nutritional Assistance to Mothers, Infants, Children, and Seniors*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 48, USDA, ERS, August 2008.
- Fitch, C. *Factors Associated with Iron Status Among WIC Infants and Toddlers in Rural West Virginia*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 35, USDA, ERS, December 2007.
- Fitch, C., M. Cannon, G. Seidel, and D. Krummel. "Dietary Factors Affecting Iron Status of Children Residing in Rural West Virginia," *West Virginia Medical Journal*, Vol. 104, No. 3, May/June 2008.
- Freeman, K., K. Bonuck, and M. Trombley. "Breast-feeding and Infant Illness in Low-Income Minority Women: A Prospective Cohort Study of the Dose-Response Relationship," *Journal of Human Lactation*, Vol. 24, No. 1, February 2008.
- Gable, S., J. Britt-Rankin, and J. Krull. *Ecological Predictors and Developmental Outcomes of Persistent Childhood Overweight*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 42, USDA, ERS, June 2008.
- Gable, S., J. Krull, and A. Srikanta. "Childhood Overweight and Academic Achievement," *Obesity in Childhood and Adolescence*, Vol. 2, H. Fitzgerald and V. Mousouli, eds., Praeger Press, Westport, CT, December 2007.
- Gundersen, C. "Measuring the Extent, Depth, and Severity of Food Insecurity: An Application to American Indians in the USA," *Journal of Population Economics*, Vol. 21, No.1, January 2008.
- Gundersen, C., and B. Kreider. "Food Stamps and Food Insecurity: What Can Be Learned in the Presence of Nonclassical Measurement Error?" *Journal of Human Resources*, Vol. 43, No. 2, Spring 2008.
- Hanson, K. "Mollie Orshansky's Strategy to Poverty Measurement as a Relationship between Household Food Expenditures and Economy Food Plan," *Review of Agricultural Economics*, Vol. 30, Issue 3, Fall 2008.

- Henderson, E., R. Capps, and K. Finegold. *Impact of 2002-03 Farm Bill Restorations on Food Stamp Use by Legal Immigrants*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 40, USDA, ERS, April 2008.
- Herman, D., G. Harrison, A. Afifi, and E. Jenks. "Effect of a Targeted Subsidy on Intake of Fruits and Vegetables Among Low-Income Women in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children," *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 98, No. 1, January 2008.
- Isaacs, J. *The Costs of Benefit Delivery in the Food Stamp Program: Lessons From a Cross-Program Analysis*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 39, USDA, ERS, March 2008.
- Joyce, T., A. Racine and C. Yunzal-Butler. "Reassessing the WIC Effect: Evidence from the Pregnancy Nutrition Surveillance System," *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, Vol. 27, Issue 2, Spring 2008.
- Kavanagh, K., R. Cohen, M. Heinig, and K. Dewey. "Educational Intervention to Modify Bottle-feeding Behaviors among Formula-feeding Mothers in the WIC Program: Impact on Infant Formula Intake and Weight Gain," *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, Vol. 40, No. 4, July/August 2008.
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- Newman, C., K. Ralston, and A. Clauson. "Balancing Nutrition, Participation, and Cost in the National School Lunch Program," *Amber Waves*, Vol. 6, Issue 4, USDA, ERS, September 2008.
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- Nord, M., and H. Hopwood. "Does Interview Mode Matter for Food Security Measurement? Telephone Versus In-person Interviews in the Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement," *Public Health Nutrition*, Vol. 10, Issue 12, December 2007.
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- Olson, C., and M. Strawderman. "The Relationship Between Food Insecurity and Obesity in Rural Child-bearing Women," *Journal of Rural Health*, Vol. 24, No. 1, Winter 2008.
- Ralston, K., C. Newman, A. Clauson, J. Guthrie, and J. Buzby. *The National School Lunch Program Background, Trends, and Issues*, Economic Research Report No. 61, USDA, ERS, July 2008.
- Ratcliffe, C., S-M. McKernan, and K. Finegold. *Effect of State Food Stamp and TANF Policies on Food Stamp Program Participation*, Contractor and Cooperator Report No. 36, USDA, ERS, January 2008.

- Ratcliffe, C., S-M. McKernan, and K. Finegold. "Effects of Food Stamp and TANF Policies on Food Stamp Receipt," *Social Service Review*, Vol. 82, No. 2, June 2008.
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## Appendix A. Institutions, Universities, and Government Agencies Awarded FANRP Projects, Fiscal 1998-2008

### Institutions

Abt Associates Inc.  
ACNielsen  
Altarum Institute  
ATMS  
Boston Medical Center  
Brookings Institution  
Cancer Research Center of Hawaii  
Channing Laboratory, Brigham and Woman's Hospital  
Child Trends  
Children's Hospital Medical Center (Cincinnati)  
Committee on National Statistics  
Health Systems Research  
Information Resources, Inc.  
IQ Solutions  
Life Sciences Research Organization  
Lewin Group  
Macro International  
Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation  
Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital  
Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.  
National Academy of Sciences  
National Bureau of Economic Research  
National Science Foundation  
ORC Macro, Inc.  
Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation  
RAND Corporation  
Research Triangle Institute, Inc.  
Resource Network International  
Rockefeller Institute of Government  
Society for Nutrition Education  
Sphere Institute  
United Nations University Centre  
Urban Institute  
World Health Organization

### Universities

Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
Auburn University  
Baylor University  
Boston University  
Bryn Mawr College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Cornell University

George Washington University  
Harvard University  
Indiana University  
Iowa State University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Northwestern University  
Louisiana Tech University  
Medical College of Georgia Research Institute, Inc.  
Middle Tennessee State University  
North Carolina State University  
Nova Scotia Agricultural College  
Ohio State University  
Oregon State University  
Mississippi State University  
South Dakota State University  
Syracuse University  
Texas A&M University  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
University of Arizona  
University of Baltimore  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Davis  
University of Chicago  
University of Georgia  
University of Houston  
University of Illinois  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
University of Kentucky  
University of Massachusetts  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Missouri  
University of Notre Dame  
University of North Carolina  
University of Nevada  
University of New Mexico  
University of Oregon  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern Mississippi  
University of Tennessee  
University of Utah  
University of West Virginia  
University of Wisconsin  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Yale University

## **Government Agencies**

Agricultural Research Service, USDA  
Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, USDA  
Food and Drug Administration  
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA  
National Agricultural Library, USDA  
National Center for Education Statistics,  
U.S. Department of Education

South Carolina Social Services  
U.S. Census Bureau  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
USDA Graduate School  
Virginia Department of Social Services

## Appendix B. Peer Reviewers for the Competitive Grant and Cooperative Research Program, Fiscal 2008

<b>Reviewer</b>	<b>Institution</b>
Dawn Aldridge	Independent Consultant
Neil Bania	University of Oregon, Department of Planning, Public Policy & Management
Peter Basiotis	Independent Consultant
Erik Beecroft	Virginia Department of Social Services
Paul Buescher	North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, State Center for Health Statistics
Sue Butkus	Washington State University, Food Science and Human Nutrition
Chanjin Chung	Oklahoma State University, Department of Agricultural Economics
George Davis	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
Cheryl DeVuyst	North Dakota State University, Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics
Jamie Dollahite	Cornell University, Division of Nutritional Sciences
Rosemarie Downer	USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
Marilyn Edelhoeh	Independent Consultant
John Endahl	USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
Nancy Folbre	University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Department of Economics
Diane Gibson	Baruch College, School of Public Affairs
Frederic Glantz	Kokopelli Associates LLC
Lisa Harnack	University of Minnesota, School of Public Health
Ed Harper	USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
Gail Harrison	University of California-Los Angeles, Center for Health Policy Research
Geraldine Henchy	Food Research and Action Center
Sandra Hofferth	University of Maryland, Maryland Population Center
Alison Jackowitz	American University, School of Public Affairs
Karen Jetter	University of California, Agricultural Issues Center
Neeraj Kaushal	Columbia University, School of Social Work
David Kendall	The University of Virginia's College at Wise, Department of Business and Economics
Maureen Kilkenny	University of Nevada, Department of Resource Economics
Jean Kimmel	Western Michigan University, Department of Economics
Robert King	University of Minnesota, Department of Applied Economics
Richard Larson	Maryland Department of Human Resources
Laura Leete	University of Oregon, Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management
Robert Lerman	American University, Department of Economics
Chris Logan	Abt Associates
Signe-Mary McKernan	The Urban Institute
Pat McKinney	Independent Consultant
Elizabeth Metallinos-Katsaras	Simmons College, Department of Nutrition
Laura Peck	Arizona State University, School of Public Affairs
Scott Powers	The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Beatrice Rogers	Tufts University, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy
Dottie Rosenbaum	Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

## **Reviewer**

Sangita Sharma  
Judith Shinogle  
Julie Skolmowski  
Chery Smith  
Jane Staveley  
Parke Wilde  
Hoke Wilson  
Qi Zhang

## **Institution**

University of Hawaii, Cancer Research Center of Hawaii  
University of Maryland, Department of Health Services  
School Nutrition Association  
University of Minnesota, Department of Food Science and Nutrition  
University of Baltimore, Jacob France Institute  
Tufts University, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy  
USDA, Food and Nutrition Service  
Old Dominion University, School of Community and Environmental Health

