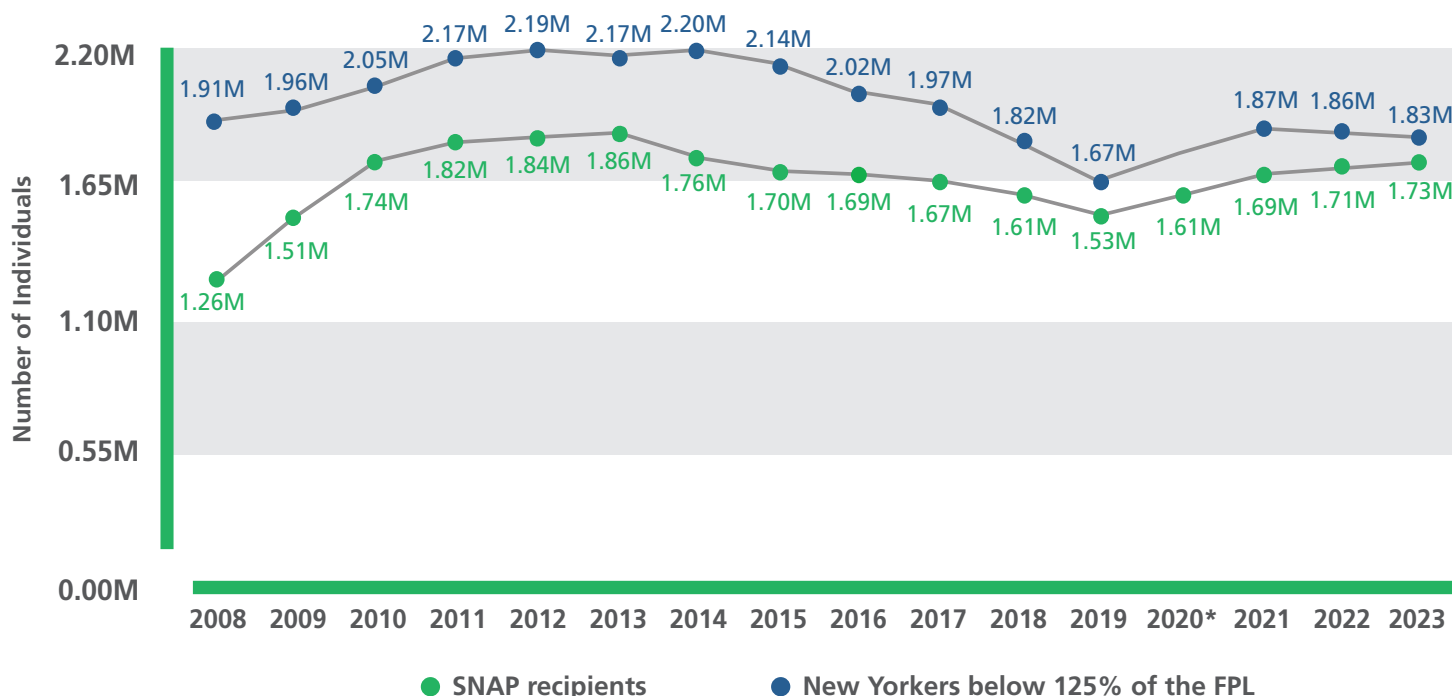




OF ENROLLMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN NEW YORK CITY

FIGURE 1 SNAP Recipients & New Yorkers below 125% Federal Poverty Line, 2008 – 2023



* Due to data challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the US Census Bureau does not endorse comparisons between 2020 ACS data and other years.



SNAP recipients in New York City

In 2023, **1.73 million** New York City residents received SNAP benefits to help purchase food. SNAP receipt increased in the aftermath of the 2008 recession but fell as the economy improved, reaching 1.53 million New Yorkers in 2019. The economic disruption and expansion of the federal safety net associated with the COVID-19 pandemic led to an increase in the number of SNAP recipients which has continued into 2023, this trend is shown in Figure 1.



Those below 125% of the Federal Poverty Line

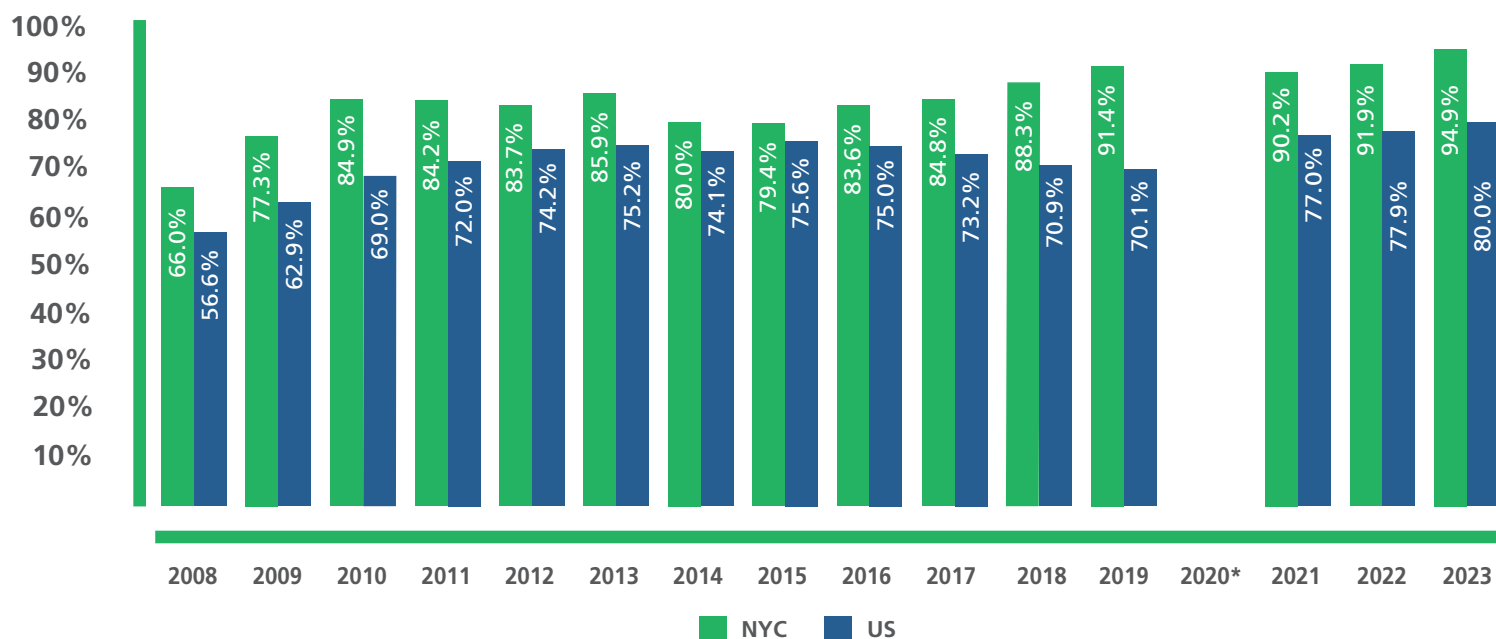
Figure 1 also shows the number of people in NYC with family income below 125% of the federal poverty line (FPL) – a group likely eligible for SNAP benefits.

In 2023, 1.83 million New Yorkers lived in households below 125% FPL, a decline from 2022, though still above historically low pre-pandemic poverty levels.

Source: NYC Human Resources Administration for SNAP enrollment; U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) Census.data.gov table S1701 for number of residents below 125% of the official poverty line.

Note: Number of SNAP recipients is the monthly average for the calendar year.

FIGURE 2 **SNAP Program Access Index (PAI), 2008 – 2023**
(The PAI measures the proportion of people below 125% FPL who receive SNAP benefits)



* Due to data challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the US Census Bureau does not endorse comparisons between 2020 ACS data and other years.

As a metric of SNAP's reach, USDA's Program Access Index (PAI) tells us the proportion of people below 125% FPL who receive SNAP. **NYC's 2023 PAI of 94.9% was the highest it's ever been, above the pre-pandemic level of 91.4% in 2019 (Figure 2).** NYC's PAI has historically outpaced the nation's, remaining near or above 80% since 2010, while this is the first year the national level has reached 80%.

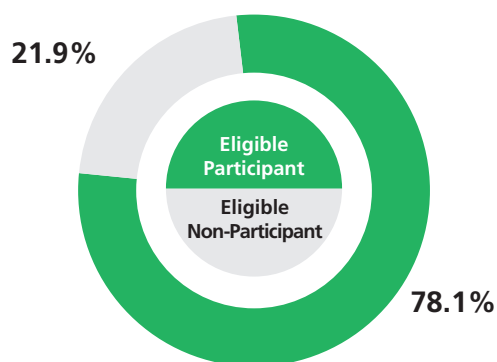
Source: NYC Human Resources Administration for SNAP enrollment; U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) American FactFinder Table S1701 for number of residents below 125% of the official poverty line. The U.S. PAI is calculated by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

Note: Number of SNAP recipients is the monthly average for the calendar year.

**SNAP
Program
Access Index
increase from
2015-2023:**

94.9%
↑
79.4%

FIGURE 3 **NYC SNAP Participation Rate, 2023**



We estimate the SNAP participation rate among all SNAP-eligible New Yorkers, taking into consideration household composition and state eligibility rules.¹ More than three quarters of New York City residents who appeared eligible for SNAP benefits received them in 2023 (**78.1%**).

¹ The USDA's national and state participation rates do not reflect expanded state eligibility rules, making our estimate more conservative.

Source: NYC Human Resources Administration for SNAP enrollment; U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample 1-year for estimated SNAP-eligible population; NYC Opportunity Poverty Research Unit data to estimate SNAP-ineligible noncitizen populations.

Note: The Participation Rate is calculated for the calendar year, using annual income from the ACS and average monthly SNAP enrollment.