## 1.5 MILLION NONCITIZENS RECEIVE FOOD STAMPS

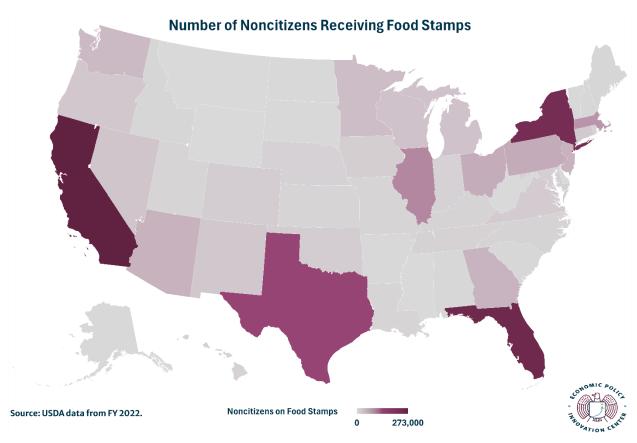
Matthew Dickerson, Director of Budget Policy April 28, 2025

The Food Stamp program provided benefits to 1.465 million noncitizens in fiscal year 2022, the <u>latest data</u> available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Another 2.2 million children living with noncitizens were also on Food Stamps.

These nearly 1.5 million noncitizens collected a total of \$4.2 billion in Food Stamp benefit payments.

According to the USDA, the <u>noncitizens include</u> "lawful permanent residents, refugees, asylees, those granted a stay of deportation, and undocumented individuals... Undocumented individuals are not eligible to receive SNAP benefits, but may be nonparticipating members of SNAP households."

California led the way in enrolling noncitizens on Food Stamps, with 273,000 in FY 2022. Florida had 238,000, New York 218,000, Texas 132,000, and Illinois 73,000 noncitizens. In contrast, Delaware, Mississippi, Montana, West Virginia, and Wyoming reported no noncitizens on Food Stamps.





1.5 Million Noncitizens on Food Stamps					
State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
Alabama	2,000	Kentucky	5,000	North Dakota	1,000
Alaska	1,000	Louisiana	4,000	Ohio	40,000
Arizona	35,000	Maine	3,000	Oklahoma	11,000
Arkansas	1,000	Maryland	9,000	Oregon	16,000
California	273,000	Massachusetts	61,000	Pennsylvania	41,000
Colorado	11,000	Michigan	20,000	Rhode Island	6,000
Connecticut	14,000	Minnesota	25,000	South Carolina	2,000
Delaware	0	Mississippi	0	South Dakota	1,000
Washington D.C.	1,000	Missouri	4,000	Tennessee	6,000
Florida	238,000	Montana	0	Texas	132,000
Georgia	33,000	Nebraska	7,000	Utah	4,000
Hawaii	6,000	Nevada	18,000	Vermont	1,000
Idaho	3,000	New Hampshire	2,000	Virginia	12,000
Illinois	73,000	New Jersey	35,000	Washington	28,000
Indiana	7,000	New Mexico	15,000	West Virginia	0
Iowa	10,000	New York	218,000	Wisconsin	20,000
Kansas	4,000	North Carolina	5,000	Wyoming	0

Source: USDA data from FY 2022.

## Billions in Benefits for Illegal Aliens

Long-standing <u>public charge policies</u> of the United States that have expected immigrants to be self-sufficient and not reliant upon government benefit programs.

Despite the public charge doctrine, the federal government <u>provides billions in benefits each year</u> to noncitizens, including illegal aliens. As the USDA notes, "undocumented individuals" are not supposed to be eligible for Food Stamps. However, the Biden-Harris Administration abused loopholes to confer "status" such as parole or a deferral from deportation to millions of illegal aliens, qualifying them for welfare programs as a part of its catch-and-release agenda.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) <u>estimated</u> that the surge in illegal immigration from Biden's border policies will cause \$15 billion in Food Stamp benefits to be paid to illegal immigrants and their children by FY 20234.

Securing the border is one of the <u>most important priorities</u> of the American people. The budget reconciliation process will <u>allow Congress and the Trump Administration</u> to take serious steps to crack down on the chaos at the border. This should include closing the loopholes and cutting off the billions in welfare benefits that are spent on illegal aliens.

