

Program Access Index 2011

Measuring CalFresh Utilization by County

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California Food Policy Advocates

California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) is a statewide public policy and advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and well being of low-income Californians by increasing their access to nutritious, affordable food.

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CFPA's county Program Access Index (PAI) draws on the methodology developed for the United States Department of Agriculture's state PAI. We appreciate the effort and expertise that is dedicated to producing that measure.

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The Program Access Index

The Program Access Index (PAI) estimates CalFresh^a utilization among low-income individuals. Each year, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) produces a state-level PAI.¹ The PAI provided in this report is a county-level analysis modeled on the USDA methodology.

As shown in the general formula below, the county-level PAI estimates CalFresh utilization among individuals who meet three CalFresh eligibility criteria: income below 125 percent of the poverty threshold,^b no participation in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and no receipt of Supplemental Security Income (SSI).^c

$$\text{PAI} = \frac{(\text{CalFresh Participants}) - (\text{Disaster CalFresh Program Participants})}{(\text{Individuals with Income} < 125\% \text{ Poverty Threshold}) - (\text{FDPIR Participants}) - (\text{SSI Recipients})}$$

The PAI incorporates only three CalFresh eligibility criteria. Therefore, it is not a participation rate that measures CalFresh participation among fully-eligible individuals. However, the PAI can help illuminate county-level differences in CalFresh utilization by comparing the number of individuals who meet select CalFresh eligibility criteria and the number of individuals who actually receive CalFresh benefits.

USDA uses its state-level PAI as one measure to “reward States for high performance in the administration of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).”² Within California, CalFresh administrative policies and practices vary by county. The PAI cannot be used a comprehensive measure to evaluate administrative performance. However, administrative policies and practices do impact the number of CalFresh participants. Therefore, CalFresh administrative policies and practices do impact one of the primary factors used to calculate the PAI.

^a The nutrition assistance program known federally as “SNAP” (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) is known as “CalFresh” in California.

^b Eligibility criteria for CalFresh allow participants to have incomes up to 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). However, county-level estimates are not available for the number of individuals with incomes below 130 percent of FPG. Therefore, having an income below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold is used as a proxy for CalFresh income eligibility. The use of this proxy may underestimate the number of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh.

^c Federal regulations make FDPIR participants ineligible for CalFresh/SNAP. State regulations make SSI recipients ineligible for CalFresh.

Comparing the PAI and State Participation Rates

Each year, USDA releases SNAP/CalFresh “participation rates” for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. These participation rates may be the best available estimates of SNAP/CalFresh utilization among eligible individuals. However, the rates are calculated as statewide measures and have limited relevance at the county level, particularly in a state as diverse as California. USDA does not calculate county-level participation rates.

Determining CalFresh Eligibility

USDA’s state participation rates are complex estimates of SNAP/CalFresh participation among eligible individuals. The rates take into account several factors affecting CalFresh eligibility and utilization. In comparison, the PAI takes into account three CalFresh eligibility criteria: income, FDPIR participation, and SSI status.

Timeliness of Available Data

State participation rates for any given year are typically released two to three years following. For instance, USDA’s state participation rates for 2010 were released during December of 2012.³ In comparison, the PAI can be calculated within one year. For example, USDA released the 2011 state-level PAI in December 2012.⁴

Interpreting the PAI

The county-level PAI compares two population estimates: the number of individuals in each county who meet three CalFresh eligibility criteria (income below 125% of the federal poverty threshold, no participation in FDPIR, and no receipt of SSI) and the number of individuals in each county who receive CalFresh benefits.

Assessing the Impact of County Administration

Because CalFresh policies and practices vary among California counties, county-level measures that assess the extent to which administrators reach and serve the eligible population are critical. The PAI is one such measure because CalFresh administration affects a central component of the PAI calculation: the number of individuals receiving CalFresh benefits. On its own, the PAI is not a comprehensive tool for evaluating counties’ administration of CalFresh. Advocates and administrators should look to establish the use of additional indicators in assessing CalFresh administrative performance.

Ranking

The PAI tables in this report include county rankings. The county ranked number one has the highest estimated CalFresh utilization relative to the total number of income-eligible individuals who do not participate in FDPIR or receive SSI.

Trends

The county-level PAI is not designed to definitively establish trends over time. There are two primary challenges with using the PAI to establish trends:

1. Methodological approaches may change over time, altering the comparability of PAI estimates calculated before and after each change.
2. Income data from the American Community Survey are used to calculate the PAI. These data have a given level of precision expressed as a margin of error. Margins of error can make it difficult to distinguish true trends from variations inherent to the methods used for collecting and analyzing survey data.

PAI Tables

This section contains two tables. Table 1 shows the PAI for all California counties listed alphabetically. Table 2 shows the PAI for all California counties listed by rank. When applied to statewide data, the methodology used to generate Tables 1 and 2 yields a PAI of 0.655 for California.

The tables in this section were generated with a methodology that subtracts all Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh. An adjunct set of PAI tables was generated with a methodology that subtracts a subset of SSI recipients from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh. This adjunct set of tables can be found in Appendix A. For full details about the treatment of SSI data within this PAI analysis, please see Step 7 of the methodologies.

PAI for All Counties: Listed Alphabetically

Table 1

County	PAI	Rank
Alameda	0.649	31
Alpine	0.822	12
Amador ¹	0.783	16
Butte	0.617	35
Calaveras	1.115	2
Colusa	0.426	55
Contra Costa	0.582	39
Del Norte	1.190	1
El Dorado	0.659	29
Fresno	0.890	5
Glenn	0.572	40
Humboldt	0.624	33
Imperial	0.847	9
Inyo	0.723	21
Kern	0.687	23
Kings	0.745	20
Lake	0.671	28
Lassen	0.795	15
Los Angeles	0.591	37
Madera	0.766	19
Marin	0.429	54
Mariposa	0.647	32
Mendocino	0.826	10
Merced	0.796	14
Modoc	0.462	50
Mono	0.247	58
Monterey	0.532	43
Napa	0.436	52
Nevada	0.545	42

County	PAI	Rank
Orange	0.526	44
Placer	0.621	34
Plumas	0.526	45
Riverside ²	0.681	24
Sacramento	0.908	4
San Benito	0.781	18
San Bernardino	0.928	3
San Diego	0.512	47
San Francisco	0.569	41
San Joaquin	0.819	13
San Luis Obispo	0.435	53
San Mateo	0.398	57
Santa Barbara	0.439	51
Santa Clara	0.588	38
Santa Cruz	0.505	48
Shasta ¹	0.783	17
Sierra	0.464	49
Siskiyou	0.680	26
Solano	0.889	6
Sonoma	0.513	46
Stanislaus	0.825	11
Sutter	0.675	27
Tehama ²	0.681	25
Trinity	0.606	36
Tulare	0.871	8
Tuolumne	0.689	22
Ventura	0.656	30
Yolo	0.407	56
Yuba	0.887	7

¹⁻²The PAI is listed here with three significant digits. However, the PAI used to calculate the county ranking contained 15 significant digits. Viewed with four significant digits, Amador County's PAI is 0.7829 and Shasta County's PAI is 0.7827. Thus, their respective ranks are 16 and 17. Similarly, Riverside County's PAI is 0.6814 and Tehama County's PAI is 0.6812.

PAI for All Counties: Listed by Rank

Table 2

County	PAI	Rank
Del Norte	1.190	1
Calaveras	1.115	2
San Bernardino	0.928	3
Sacramento	0.908	4
Fresno	0.890	5
Solano	0.889	6
Yuba	0.887	7
Tulare	0.871	8
Imperial	0.847	9
Mendocino	0.826	10
Stanislaus	0.825	11
Alpine	0.822	12
San Joaquin	0.819	13
Merced	0.796	14
Lassen	0.795	15
Amador ¹	0.783	16
Shasta ¹	0.783	17
San Benito	0.781	18
Madera	0.766	19
Kings	0.745	20
Inyo	0.723	21
Tuolumne	0.689	22
Kern	0.687	23
Riverside ²	0.681	24
Tehama ²	0.681	25
Siskiyou	0.680	26
Sutter	0.675	27
Lake	0.671	28
El Dorado	0.659	29

County	PAI	Rank
Ventura	0.656	30
Alameda	0.649	31
Mariposa	0.647	32
Humboldt	0.624	33
Placer	0.621	34
Butte	0.617	35
Trinity	0.606	36
Los Angeles	0.591	37
Santa Clara	0.588	38
Contra Costa	0.582	39
Glenn	0.572	40
San Francisco	0.569	41
Nevada	0.545	42
Monterey	0.532	43
Orange	0.526	44
Plumas	0.526	45
Sonoma	0.513	46
San Diego	0.512	47
Santa Cruz	0.505	48
Sierra	0.464	49
Modoc	0.462	50
Santa Barbara	0.439	51
Napa	0.436	52
San Luis Obispo	0.435	53
Marin	0.429	54
Colusa	0.426	55
Yolo	0.407	56
San Mateo	0.398	57
Mono	0.247	58

¹⁻²The PAI is listed here with three significant digits. However, the PAI used to calculate the county ranking contained 15 significant digits. Viewed with four significant digits, Amador County's PAI is 0.7829 and Shasta County's PAI is 0.7827. Thus, their respective ranks are 16 and 17. Similarly, Riverside County's PAI is 0.6814 and Tehama County's PAI is 0.6812.

Methodology

Methodology for Tables 1 and 2

This methodology details the calculations used for the PAI shown in Tables 1 and 2. Except in the treatment of SSI-recipient data and the source of income data, this methodology follows the USDA methodology^d used to calculate the 2011 state-level PAI. As detailed in Step 7 below, this methodology subtracts the total number of SSI recipients from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh. An adjunct PAI calculation, which subtracts a subset of SSI recipients from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh is located in Appendix A.

Step 1: Determine the annual count of CalFresh participants for the 2011 calendar year by summing monthly participation counts from January 2011 through December 2011.

Sum of Monthly Participation from January through December = Annual Count of CalFresh Participants

Data Source: CalFresh participation data for the state of California and all California counties are available at: <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/research/PG352.htm>.

Step 2: Determine the number of individuals who received Disaster CalFresh benefits (disaster assistance) during the 2011 calendar year.

Data Source: Disaster CalFresh participation data were provided by the California Department of Social Services.

Note: There were no Disaster CalFresh benefits distributed in any California counties for the 2011 calendar year.

Step 3: Calculate the adjusted number of annual CalFresh participants by subtracting Step 2 from Step 1.

Annual Count of CalFresh Participants – Number of Disaster CalFresh Recipients = Adjusted Annual Count of CalFresh Participants

Step 4: Calculate the adjusted number of average monthly CalFresh participants for the 2011 calendar year by dividing Step 3 by 12.

Adjusted Annual Count of CalFresh Participants ÷ 12 months = Adjusted Number of Average Monthly CalFresh Participants

^d The USDA methodology is available at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/MENU/Published/snap/FILES/Other/PAI2011.pdf>.

Step 5: Determine the number of individuals with incomes below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold. Eligibility criteria for CalFresh allow participants to have incomes up to 130 percent of FPG. However, county-level estimates are not available for the number of individuals with incomes below 130 percent of FPG. Therefore, having an income below 125 percent of the poverty threshold is used as a proxy for CalFresh income eligibility. The use of this proxy may underestimate the number of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh.

Data Source: Five year estimates of the number of individuals with incomes below 125 percent of poverty are available from American Fact Finder at:

<http://factfinder2.census.gov/main.html>. (American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table C170002)

Note: The five-year American Community Survey (ACS) estimates incorporate the most recently available data and data from the four previous years. ACS also produces one-year and three-year estimates for some California counties. However, only the 5-year estimates are available for all California counties. In order to ensure PAI comparability across all counties, 5-year estimates of income are used in this analysis. Again, these estimates include but are not limited to the most recently available data from ACS.

Step 6: Determine the average monthly participation for the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) during the 2011 calendar year.

Data Source: Average monthly FDPIR participation data were obtained from the USDA Food and Nutrition Service Western Regional Office. (See Appendix B.)

Data from calendar year 2011 were not available to identify the county of residence for each FDPIR participant. In December 2007/January 2008, FDPIR program directors estimated the number of participants residing in each county. These estimates were applied to current participation data to calculate the number of 2011 FDPIR participants in each county.

Step 7: Determine the number of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) participants for the 2011 calendar year. In California, SSI recipients are not eligible to participate in CalFresh. Therefore, any SSI recipients with incomes below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold should be removed from the total number of individuals that are income-eligible for CalFresh. Unfortunately, there are no county-specific data that specify the number of SSI recipients whose incomes fall below 125 percent of poverty.

USDA estimated that 429,194 SSI recipients in California had incomes below 125 percent of the poverty threshold during 2011. The total number of SSI recipients in California was 1,284,629 for 2011. This implies that 33.4% of SSI recipients had incomes below 125 percent of poverty in California during 2011. ($429,194 \text{ SSI recipients with incomes below 125\% poverty} \div 1,284,629 \text{ SSI recipients} * 100 = 33.4\%$).

Based on prior analyses of the California SSI population by Mathematica and other researchers,⁵ CFPFA believes that USDA underestimates the number of SSI recipients with incomes below 125 percent of poverty. In addition, the proportion of low-income SSI recipients may vary across California's counties. Therefore, for this analysis, all SSI recipients are subtracted from the population of individuals with incomes below 125 percent of poverty. This results in an underestimation of the population that is income-eligible for CalFresh and, therefore, artificially raises the PAI. An adjunct set of PAI calculations, which incorporate the USDA's SSI adjustment applied uniformly across all counties, is included in Appendix A.

Data Sources:

The USDA's estimate of California's SSI recipients with incomes below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold is published in *Calculating the SNAP Program Access Index: A Step-by-Step Guide* by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service, available at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/MENU/Published/snap/FILES/Other/PAI2011.pdf>.

California SSI data are available at: http://www.socialsecurity.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/ssi_sc/2011/.

Step 8: Calculate the adjusted number of individuals with incomes below 125 percent of poverty by subtracting Steps 6 and 7 from Step 5.

Individuals with Incomes Below 125% Poverty - Average Monthly FDPIR Participation - SSI Participants = Adjusted Number Of Individuals With Incomes Below 125% Poverty

Step 9: Calculate the Program Access Index for 2011 by dividing Step 4 by Step 8.

Adjusted Number of Average Monthly CalFresh Participants for 2011 ÷ Adjusted Number of Individuals with Incomes Below 125% Poverty = County PAI

Step 10: Rank order counties by PAI. The county ranked number one has the highest PAI score. That is, the county ranked number one has the highest estimated CalFresh utilization relative to the total number of income-eligible individuals who do not participate in FDPIR or receive SSI.

Appendix A

SSI-Adjusted PAI

To generate the PAI tables in this Appendix, the number of SSI recipients with income below 125 percent of poverty was estimated and removed from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh. These tables are distinct from those in the main body of the report for which the total number of SSI recipients was removed from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh.

There are two tables included in this appendix.

Table 3 shows the SSI-adjusted PAI for California's 58 counties listed alphabetically.

Table 4 shows the SSI-adjusted PAI for California's 58 counties listed by rank.

When applied to statewide data, the methodology used to generate Tables 3 and 4 yields a PAI of 0.570.

SSI-Adjusted PAI: All Counties Listed Alphabetically

Table 3

County	PAI	Rank
Alameda	0.539	33
Alpine ²	0.713	12
Amador	0.695	17
Butte	0.525	34
Calaveras	0.948	1
Colusa	0.389	54
Contra Costa ⁴	0.504	38
Del Norte	0.907	2
El Dorado ³	0.586	26
Fresno	0.793	4
Glenn ⁴	0.504	37
Humboldt	0.521	35
Imperial ¹	0.721	11
Inyo	0.645	20
Kern	0.616	22
Kings	0.673	19
Lake	0.566	30
Lassen	0.675	18
Los Angeles	0.508	36
Madera	0.699	16
Marin	0.381	55
Mariposa	0.571	29
Mendocino	0.710	14
Merced ²	0.713	13
Modoc	0.405	50
Mono	0.239	58
Monterey	0.491	41
Napa	0.392	53
Nevada	0.487	42

County	PAI	Rank
Orange	0.465	43
Placer	0.547	32
Plumas	0.450	47
Riverside	0.613	23
Sacramento	0.755	6
San Benito	0.724	9
San Bernardino	0.820	3
San Diego	0.454	46
San Francisco	0.418	48
San Joaquin	0.706	15
San Luis Obispo	0.399	52
San Mateo	0.346	57
Santa Barbara	0.402	51
Santa Clara	0.492	40
Santa Cruz	0.460	45
Shasta ¹	0.642	21
Sierra	0.412	49
Siskiyou	0.564	31
Solano	0.746	7
Sonoma	0.461	44
Stanislaus ¹	0.721	10
Sutter	0.584	27
Tehama	0.581	28
Trinity	0.501	39
Tulare	0.788	5
Tuolumne	0.596	24
Ventura ³	0.586	25
Yolo	0.371	56
Yuba	0.745	8

¹⁻⁴The PAI is listed here to three significant digits. However, the PAI used to calculate the county ranking contained 15 significant digits. Viewed with four significant digits, Stanislaus County's PAI is 0.7212 and Imperial County's PAI is 0.7209. Thus, their respective ranks are 10 and 11. Similarly, Alpine County's PAI is 0.7134 and Merced County's PAI is 0.7127; Ventura County's PAI is 0.5864 and Eldorado County's PAI is 0.5858; and Glenn County's PAI is 0.5041 and Contra Costa County's PAI is 0.5038.

SSI-Adjusted PAI: All Counties Listed by Rank

Table 4

County	PAI	Rank
Calaveras	0.948	1
Del Norte	0.907	2
San Bernardino	0.820	3
Fresno	0.793	4
Tulare	0.788	5
Sacramento	0.755	6
Solano	0.746	7
Yuba	0.745	8
San Benito	0.724	9
Stanislaus ¹	0.721	10
Imperial ¹	0.721	11
Alpine ²	0.713	12
Merced ²	0.713	13
Mendocino	0.710	14
San Joaquin	0.706	15
Madera	0.699	16
Amador	0.695	17
Lassen	0.675	18
Kings	0.673	19
Inyo	0.645	20
Shasta	0.642	21
Kern	0.616	22
Riverside	0.613	23
Tuolumne	0.596	24
Ventura ³	0.586	25
El Dorado ³	0.586	26
Sutter	0.584	27
Tehama	0.581	28
Mariposa	0.571	29

County	PAI	Rank
Lake	0.566	30
Siskiyou	0.564	31
Placer	0.547	32
Alameda	0.539	33
Butte	0.525	34
Humboldt	0.521	35
Los Angeles	0.508	36
Glenn ⁴	0.504	37
Contra Costa ⁴	0.504	38
Trinity	0.501	39
Santa Clara	0.492	40
Monterey	0.491	41
Nevada	0.487	42
Orange	0.465	43
Sonoma	0.461	44
Santa Cruz	0.460	45
San Diego	0.454	46
Plumas	0.450	47
San Francisco	0.418	48
Sierra	0.412	49
Modoc	0.405	50
Santa Barbara	0.402	51
San Luis Obispo	0.399	52
Napa	0.392	53
Colusa	0.389	54
Marin	0.381	55
Yolo	0.371	56
San Mateo	0.346	57
Mono	0.239	58

¹⁻⁴The PAI is listed here to three significant digits. However, the PAI used to calculate the county ranking contained 15 significant digits. Viewed with four significant digits, Stanislaus County's PAI is 0.7212 and Imperial County's PAI is 0.7209. Thus, their respective ranks are 10 and 11. Similarly, Alpine County's PAI is 0.7134 and Merced County's PAI is 0.7127; Ventura County's PAI is 0.5864 and Eldorado County's PAI is 0.5858; and Glenn County's PAI is 0.5041 and Contra Costa County's PAI is 0.5038.

SSI-Adjusted PAI Methodology

To generate the SSI-adjusted PAI shown in Tables 3 and 4, the estimated number of SSI recipients with incomes below 125 percent of poverty was subtracted from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh. In contrast, to generate the PAI presented in the main body of this report, the total number of SSI recipients was subtracted from the population of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh. Please see Step 7 of the methodologies for details.

Step 1: Determine the annual count of CalFresh participants for the 2011 calendar year by summing monthly participation counts from January 2011 through December 2011.

Sum of Monthly Participation from January through December = Annual Count of CalFresh Participants

Data Source: CalFresh participation data for the state of California and all California counties are available at: <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/research/PG352.htm>.

Step 2: Determine the number of individuals who received Disaster CalFresh benefits (disaster assistance) during the 2011 calendar year.

Data Source: Disaster CalFresh participation data were provided by the California Department of Social Services.

Note: There were no Disaster CalFresh benefits distributed in any California counties for the 2011 calendar year.

Step 3: Calculate the adjusted number of annual CalFresh participants by subtracting Step 2 from Step 1.

Annual Count of CalFresh Participants – Number of Disaster CalFresh Recipients = Adjusted Annual Count of CalFresh Participants

Step 4: Calculate the adjusted number of average monthly CalFresh participants for the 2011 calendar year by dividing Step 4 by 12.

Adjusted Annual Count of CalFresh Participants ÷ 12 months = Adjusted Number of Average Monthly CalFresh Participants

Step 5: Determine number of individuals with incomes below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold. Eligibility criteria for CalFresh allow participants to have incomes up to 130 percent of FPG. However, county-level estimates are not available for the number of individuals with incomes below 130 percent of FPG. Therefore, having an income below 125 percent of poverty is used as a proxy for CalFresh income eligibility. The use of this proxy may underestimate the number of individuals who are income-eligible for CalFresh.

Data Source: Five year estimates of the number of individuals with incomes below 125 percent of poverty are available from American Fact Finder at:

<http://factfinder2.census.gov/main.html>. (American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table C170002)

Note: five-year American Community Survey (ACS) estimates incorporate the most recently available data and data from the four previous years. ACS also produces one-year and three-year estimates for some California counties. However, only the 5-year estimates are available for all California counties. In order to ensure PAI comparability across all counties, 5-year estimates of income are used in this analysis. Again, these estimates include but are not limited to the most recently available data from ACS.

Step 6: Determine the average monthly participation for the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) during the 2011 calendar year.

Data Source: Average monthly FDPIR participation data were obtained from the USDA Food and Nutrition Service Western Regional Office. (See Appendix B.)

Data from calendar year 2011 were not available to identify the county of residence for each FDPIR participant. In December 2007/January 2008, FDPIR program directors estimated the number of participants residing in each county. These estimates were applied to current participation data to calculate the number of 2011 FDPIR participants in each county.

Step 7: Determine the number of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) participants for the 2011 calendar year. In California, SSI recipients are not eligible to participate in CalFresh. Therefore, any SSI recipients with incomes below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold should be removed from the total number of individuals that are income-eligible for CalFresh. Unfortunately, there are no county-specific data that specify the number of SSI recipients whose incomes fall below 125 percent of poverty.

USDA estimated that 429,194 SSI recipients in California had incomes below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold during 2011. The total number of SSI recipients in California was 1,284,629 for 2011. This implies that 33.4% of SSI recipients had incomes below 125 percent of poverty in California during 2011. ($429,194 \text{ SSI recipients with incomes below 125\% poverty} \div 1,284,629 \text{ SSI recipients} * 100 = 33.4\%$). This percentage is used to adjust the income-eligible CalFresh population for the number of SSI recipients with incomes below 125 percent of poverty.

Data Sources:

The USDA's estimate of California's SSI recipients with incomes below 125 percent of poverty is published in *Calculating the SNAP Program Access Index: A Step-by-Step Guide* by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service, available at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/MENU/Published/snap/FILES/Other/PAI2011.pdf>.

California SSI data are available at:

http://www.socialsecurity.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/ssi_sc/2011/.

Step 8: Calculate the adjusted number of individuals with incomes below 125 percent of poverty by subtracting Steps 6 and 7 from Step 5.

Individuals with Incomes Below 125% Poverty - Average Monthly FDPIR Participation - SSI Participants = Adjusted Number Of Individuals With Incomes Below 125% Poverty

Step 9: Calculate the Program Access Index for 2011 by dividing Step 4 by Step 8.

Adjusted Number of Average Monthly CalFresh Participants for 2011 ÷ Adjusted Number of Individuals with Incomes Below 125% Poverty = County PAI

Step 10: Rank order counties by PAI. The county ranked number one has the highest PAI score. That is, the county ranked number one has the highest estimated CalFresh utilization relative to the total number of income-eligible individuals who do not participate in FDPIR or receive SSI.

Appendix B

Average monthly FDPIR participation data for were obtained from the USDA Food and Nutrition Service Western Regional Office. These data are accurate as of January 2013.

California Indian Tribal Organizations Administering FDPIR	Average Monthly Participation in Calendar Year 2011
Fort Mojave Food Distribution	202
Hoopla Food Distribution Program	998
Riverside-San Bernardino Indian Health, Inc.	787
Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association	736
Tule River Food Distribution Program	375
Sherwood Valley Food Program	2623
Yurok Food Distribution Program	519
Total	6239

References

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Program Access Index 2011
Measuring County CalFresh Utilization

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