

Travis County Is Leaving Millions of Federal Dollars Unclaimed

Percentage of eligible residents who actually receive their SNAP (food stamp) benefits:

47%¹

Federal dollars left unclaimed each year in Travis County by this participation gap:

\$157,208,320²

1. Texas Food Bank Network (2009);
U.S Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty
Estimates (2009);
http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/research/TANF_FS.asp.

2. Ibid.

Low Participation Is Not Structural

County	Population Eligible for SNAP ¹	Participation Rate ²	Lost Dollars Annually ³
Williamson	31,105	80%	\$8,789,358
El Paso	232,287	69%	\$103,962,428
Hidalgo	326,399	65%	\$162,078,891
Travis	210,416	47%	\$157,208,320

1. Texas Food Bank Network (2009);
 U.S Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty
 Estimates (2009);
http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/research/TANF_FS.asp.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

This Represents Over \$280 Million In Lost Economic Activity

Economic Engine	Local Economic Activity
Samsung Austin	\$1.4 billion ¹
Closing the SNAP gap	\$281 million ²
SXSW	\$38 million ³
ACL Fest	\$26.3 million ⁴

1. Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, TXP, Inc. (2010).
2. USDA, The Food Assistance National Input-Output Multiplier (FANIOM) Model and Stimulus Effects of SNAP (Oct. 2010).
3. Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau (2006).
4. Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau (2005).