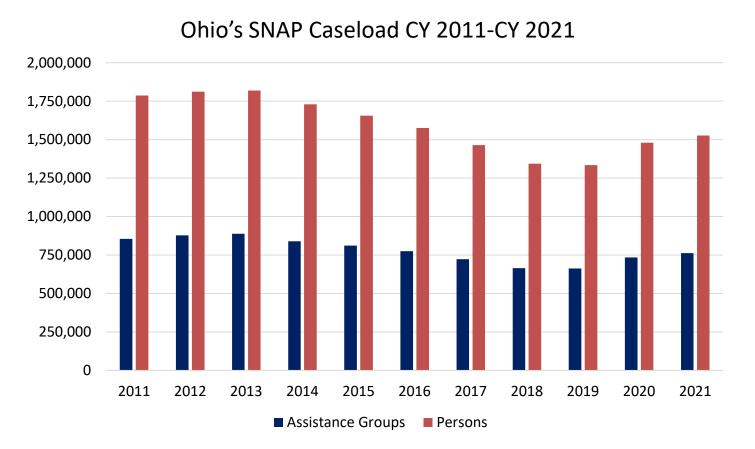
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) caseload increases during pandemic



Sources: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services; Public Assistance Monthly Statistics

- The average monthly SNAP caseload rose from 1.3 million individuals in 663,000 assistance groups in CY 2019 to 1.5 million in 762,000 assistance groups in CY 2021.
- Ohio disbursed \$4.22 billion in SNAP benefits in 2021 compared to \$2.01 billion in 2019. Benefits are paid by the federal government.
 - Average 2021 monthly benefit of \$231.
- Many actions were taken during the pandemic to increase food security, including increasing benefits and ensuring assistance groups received maximum monthly benefit amounts.
- SNAP helps low-income households (under 130% FPL) purchase food from authorized merchants.

Legislative Budget Office <u>lsc.ohio.gov</u>