

- Statewide, households served by Food Assistance rose by **84.1%** from **109,182** in the month of March 2008 to **201,018** in the month of March 2010.
- Statewide, Food Assistance applications have increased by **35.9%** from **20,228** for the month of March 2008 to **27,487** for the month of March 2011.
- Statewide, Food Assistance benefits paid have increased by **137.3%** from **\$27.49 million** in March 2008 to **\$65.23 million** in March 2010.
- Statewide, County Food Assistance case processing timeliness has improved by **15.67%** from December 2008 to December 2010, according to the Federal QA Special Reports.

FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

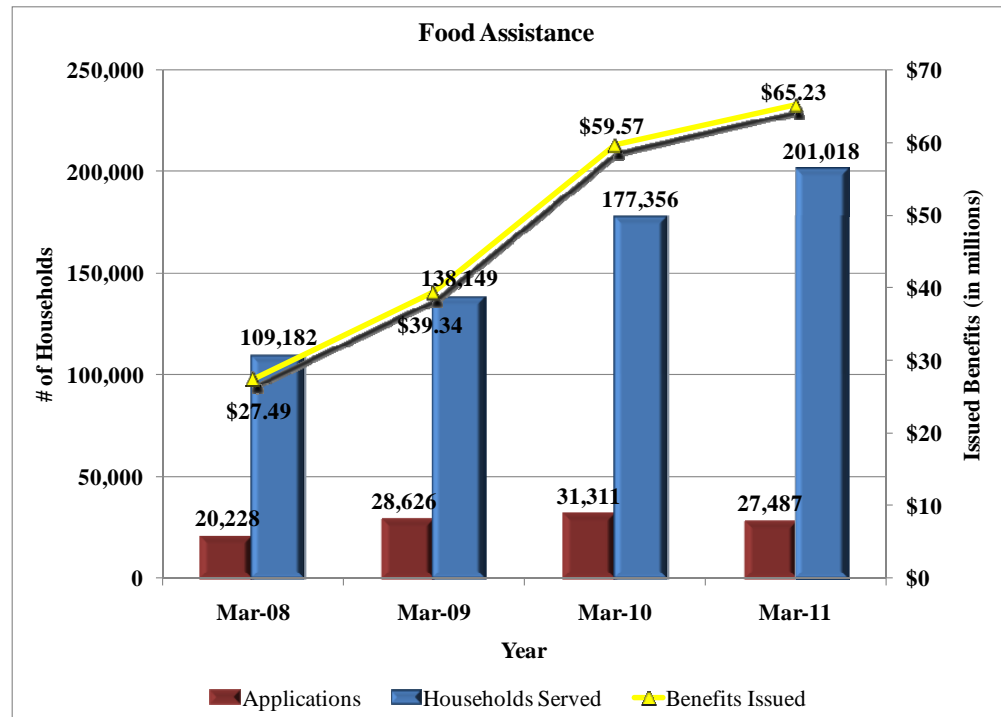
Food Assistance, formerly known as Food Stamps and currently referred to as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), assists individuals or families with the costs of purchasing food as a supplement to a household’s nutritional needs for the month.

Food Assistance benefits are accessed with a Colorado Quest card, which works like a debit card at grocery store checkout counters and is kept secure with a private pin number.

Citizens may be eligible for Food Assistance if they work for low wages; are unemployed or work part-time; receive TANF or other public assistance; are elderly or disabled and live on a small income.

Caseload Increases

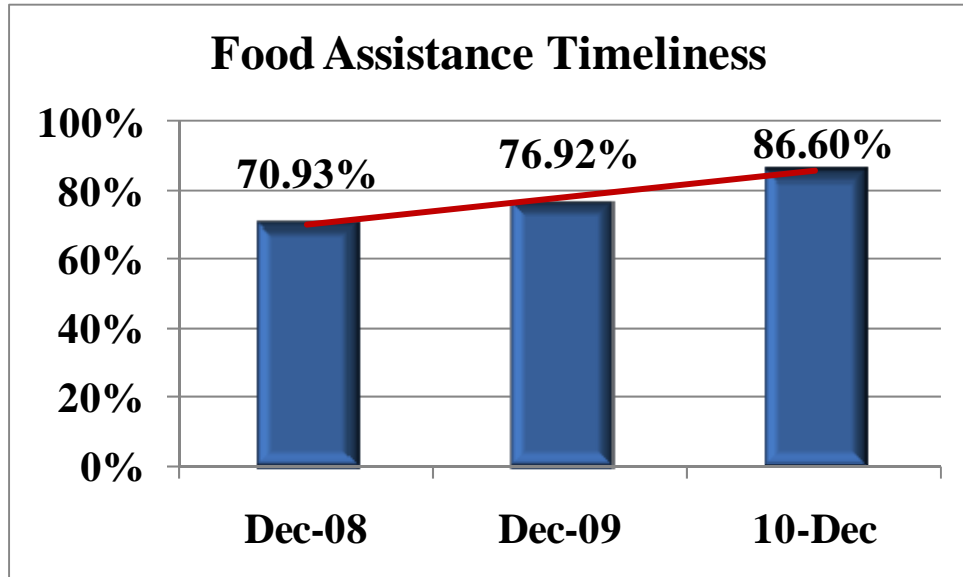
The economic downturn has contributed to an unprecedented growth in households receiving Food Assistance. Households receiving Food Assistance increased **84.1%** from **109,182** for the month of March 2008 to **201,018** for the month of March 2010. Statewide, applications increased from **20,228** to **27,487** applications, and Food Assistance benefits paid rose from **\$27.49 million** to **65.23 million** for those monthly points in time.



Source: Colorado Benefits Management System Issuance Data

*Data is point-in-time and does not reflect annual totals

Food Assistance Processing Timeliness



Source: Federal QA Special Reports

Colorado counties' statewide Food Assistance case-processing timeliness has improved by **15.67%** from December 2008 to December 2010.

Funding

Colorado's Food Assistance program received increased funding for temporary staffing to process applications from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the Department of Defense funds.