

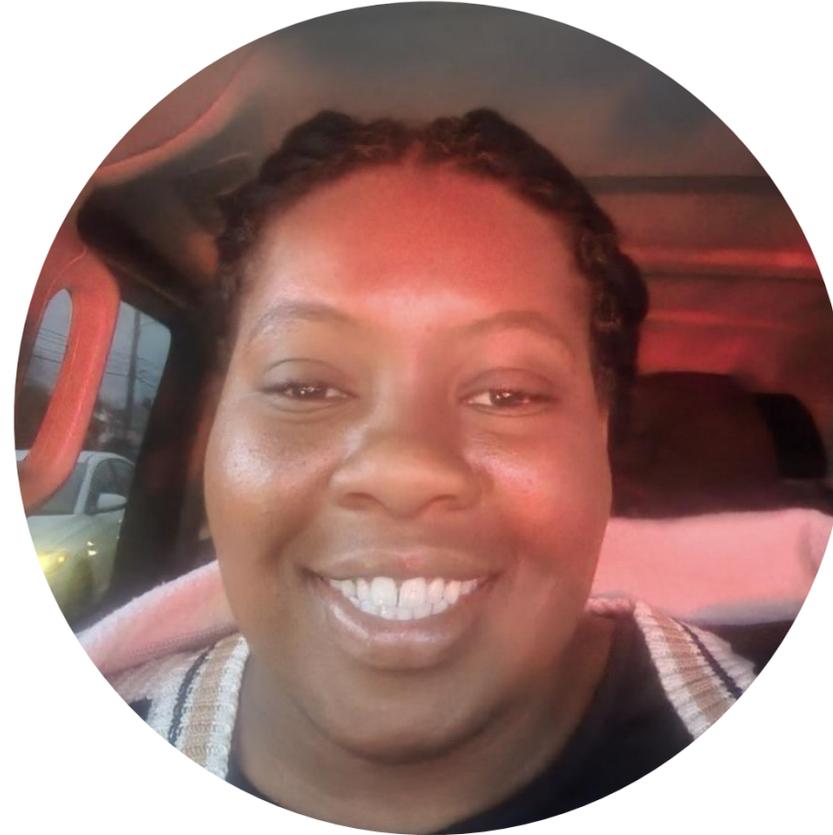
# SNAP

# Data Chat

We want to learn  
from your  
experience!



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# Welcome to The Center on Poverty and Community Development's SNAP Data Chat!

## Our goals for this data chat:

- We will be sharing some data about SNAP recertification, particularly about an issue known as SNAP churn
- We want to learn from your experience **with the data intake process** for recertification and what may influence participants' ability to recertify or not
- We want to get your ideas on what could be done to reduce this problem
- After this session, we will write a report on how community knowledge enriches the understanding of SNAP recertification data
- In our second session we want to share the report and give you a chance to provide feedback

# Before we get started...

## Our Conversation will be Recorded

We will tell you when the recording starts and stops. No identifying information about you will be included and the recorded files will be destroyed no later than one year after the meeting.



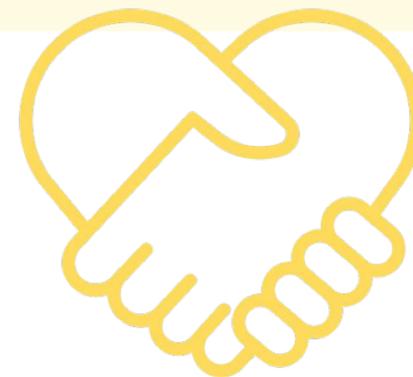
## We Want to Hear Your Voice!

We may call on you if you have not spoken for a while. You may always refuse to answer any question or stop participating at any time.



## We Want to be Respectful of All Voices and Experiences

We all agree to maintain a respectful tone when sharing, even if we disagree with each other.



## What You Say is Confidential!

What you say is confidential, and we would really like to hear from all of you.



# Today's Plan

- 1 Introductions
- 2 Data Exercise
- 3 Causes and Consequences  
Exercise
- 4 Your Data Intake Experience
- 5 Your Advice

# Let's begin!

Any questions before we start?

# Introductions

This session will involve a lot of sharing so before we start with the session, let's warm up a little with this icebreaker question:

What's your favorite food?

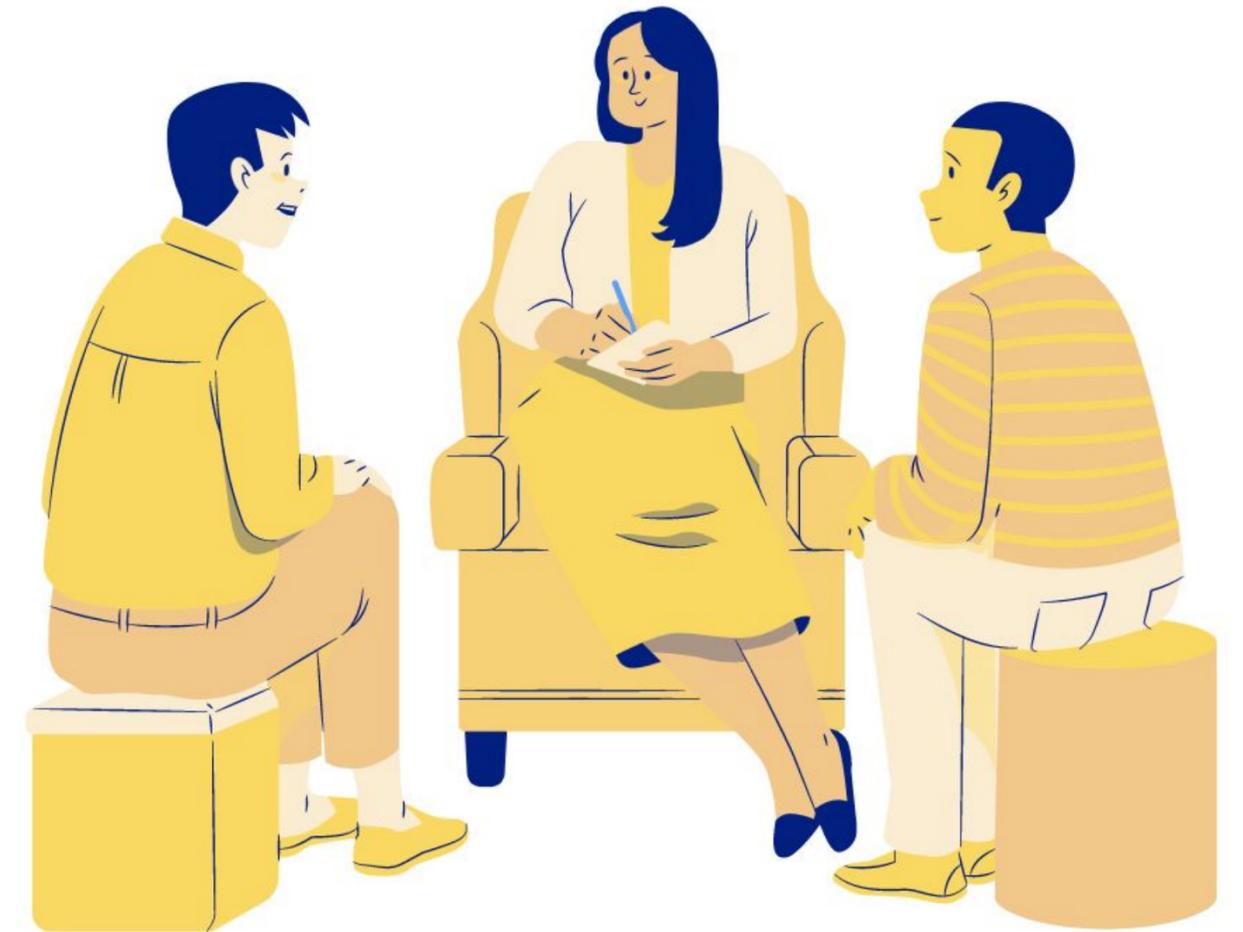
**Please introduce yourself to the group with your first name and favorite food!**

# What is a Data Chat?

A Data Chat is a dialogue between researchers and community members to improve our understanding of a specific social issue.

Researchers share data and community members share their perspectives about how their experiences are represented in the data.

The Data Chat on SNAP is a guided conversation about Recertification in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).



# Data Exercise

- How many people that you know have experienced food insecurity in the past year?
- For every 100 people in Cuyahoga County, how many people do you think live in poverty? In other words, what is the percent of people living in poverty?
- How many people that you know participated in the SNAP program during the past year (2021)?
- For every 100 people in Cuyahoga County, how many people do you think participate in the SNAP program?
- Have you or someone you know experienced loss of SNAP benefits due to recertification problems?

# Data Exercise Answers

- How many people that you know have experienced food insecurity in the past year?
- For every 100 people in Cuyahoga County, how many people do you think live in poverty? In other words, what is the percent of people living in poverty?
- How many people that you know participated in the SNAP program during the past year (2021)?
- For every 100 people in Cuyahoga County, how many people do you think participate in the SNAP program?
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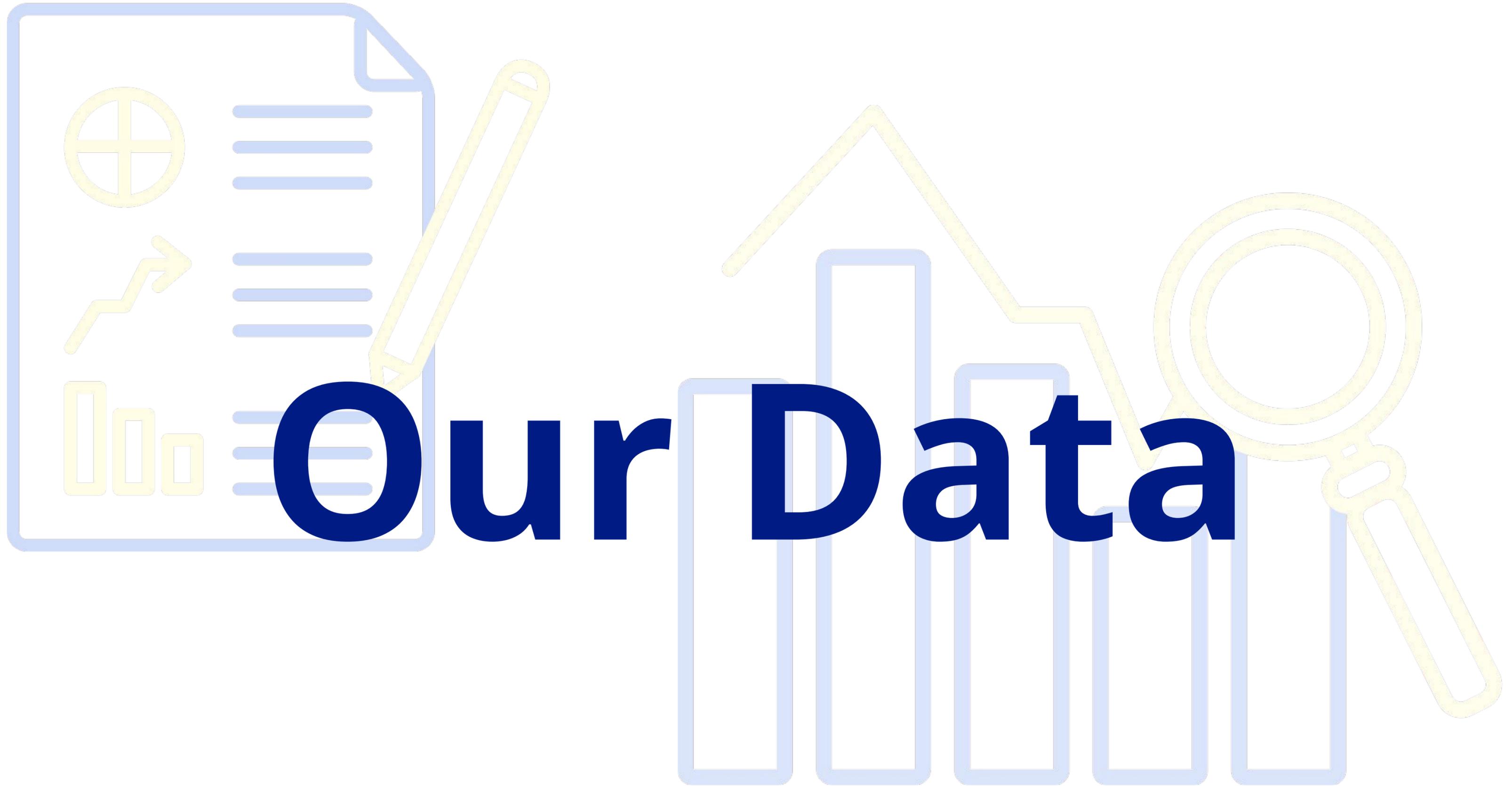
- Answers Will Vary

- 15% In 2021

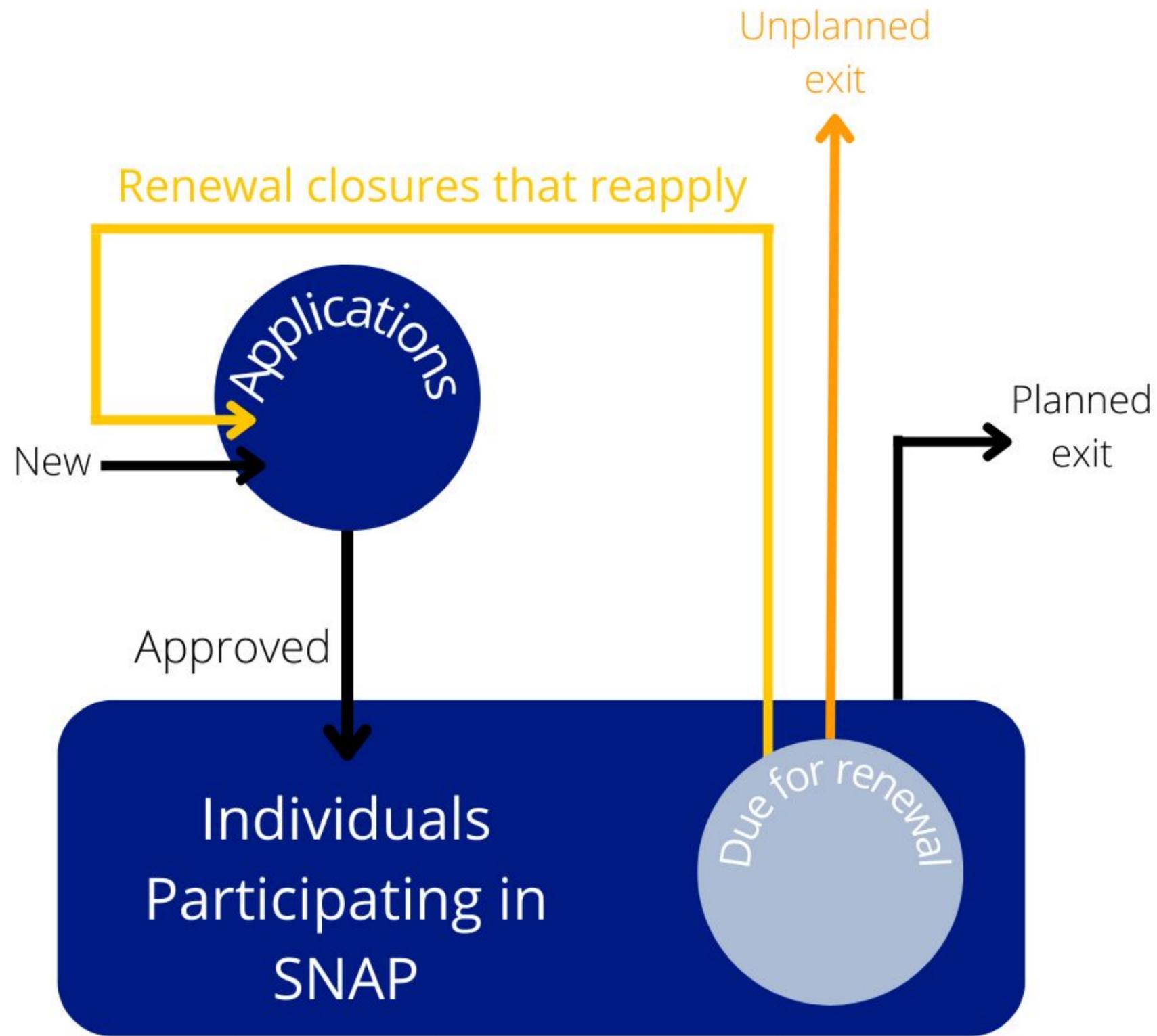
- Answers Will Vary

- About 18% in 2021

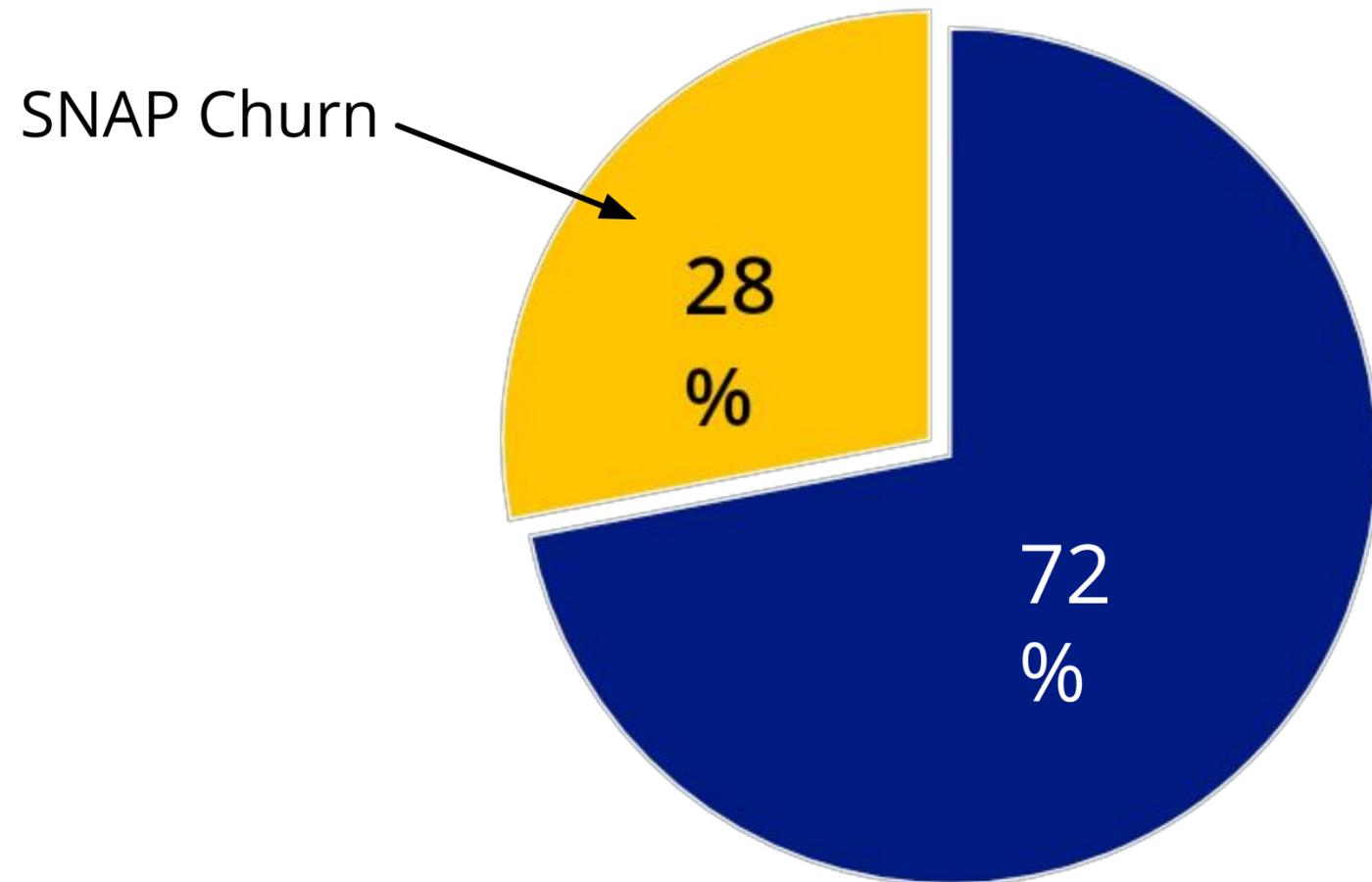
- Answers Will Vary



**Our Data**



# How common is the problem of SNAP churn?



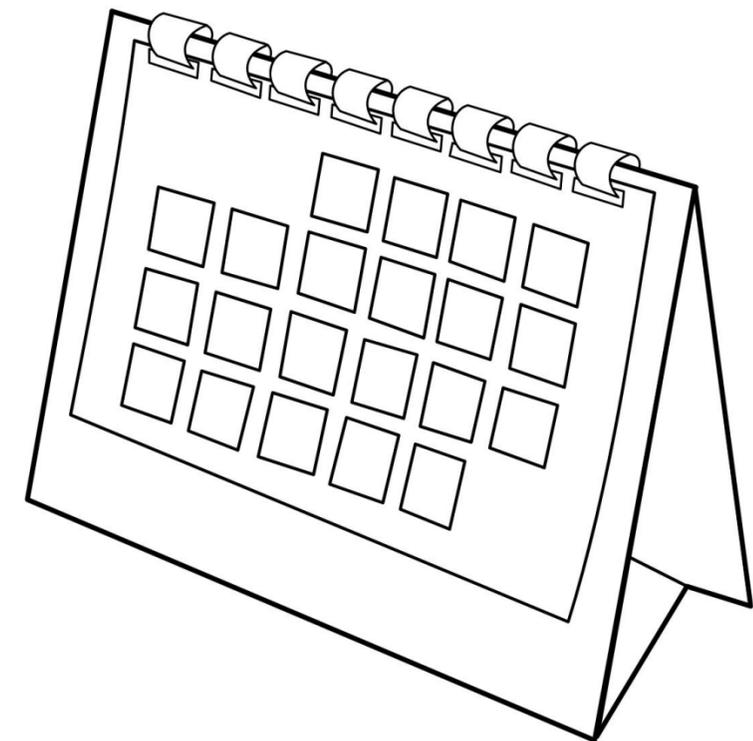
A study of administrative data for Illinois found that 28% of SNAP participants experienced churn in 2011. This means that they exited the program but returned at or before four months. In fact, about half of them resumed participation within less than a month of exiting.

# How common is the problem in our County?

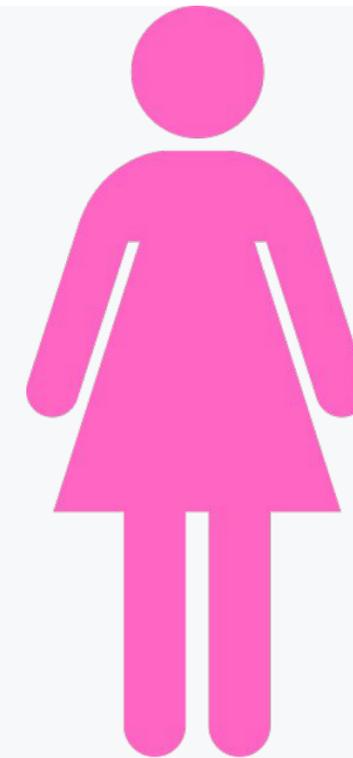
## What can the data tell us about how SNAP churn plays out in our County?

- Our data can only detect a fraction of churn episodes;
- Our data detects extended churn episodes lasting longer than one calendar month
- We call these Calendar-Month-churn or CM-churn events.
- We find that in Cuyahoga County, during 2017 about 5% of participants experienced calendar-month-churn events of one to six calendar months. This is a select group among all those who experienced churn events.

Our data is limited in that it only tells us if a person participated one or more days in a month.



# More Information about SNAP Churn



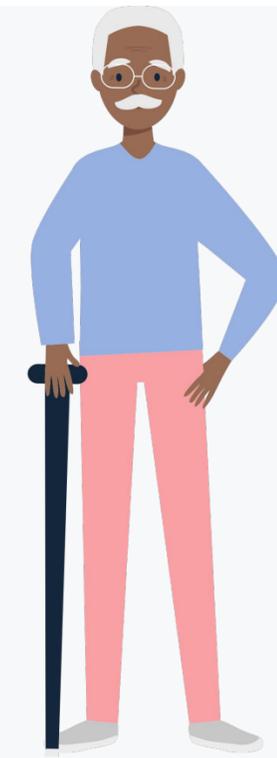
We find that women and men are similarly affected by these negative events.

# More Information about SNAP Churn



People who are identified as Black or African American in the data experience somewhat more churn events than those identified as white.

# More Information about SNAP Churn

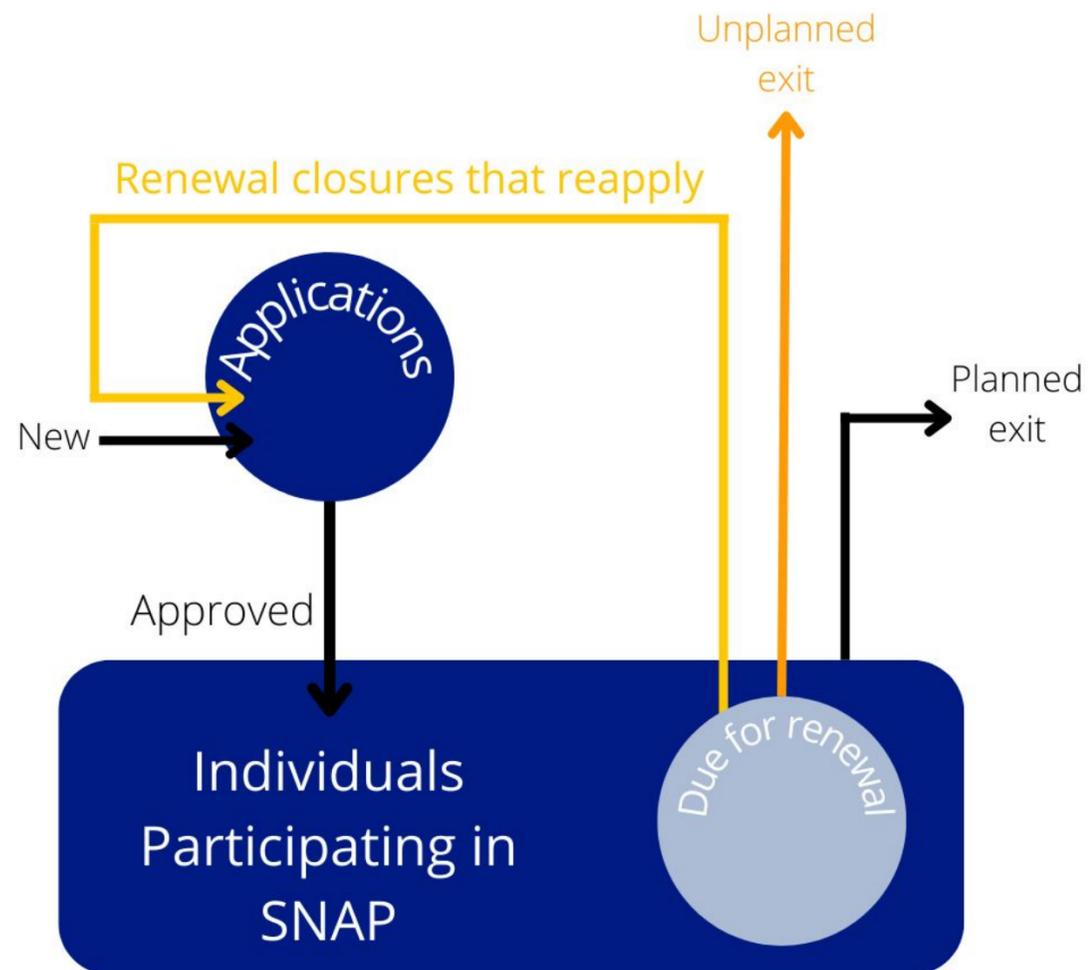


Younger participants -aged 18 to 39 years of age- have the highest rate of CM-churn compared to other age groups and those aged 65 or more experience the lowest rate of CM-churn.

# Discussion

Do these patterns surprise you or do they seem to align with your experience?

# Causes and Consequences Exercise



Consequences: SNAP recertification is successful

Consequences: SNAP recertification is not successful

**SNAP Recertification**

Causes: What helps people recertify their SNAP benefits?

Causes: What prevents people from recertifying their SNAP benefits?

# Data Intake Experience

Based on your experience:

Who entered the information you provided in the intake form or computer?

Were you offered an explanation for the need to ask these questions?

Do you think this data necessary is to provide the appropriate services?

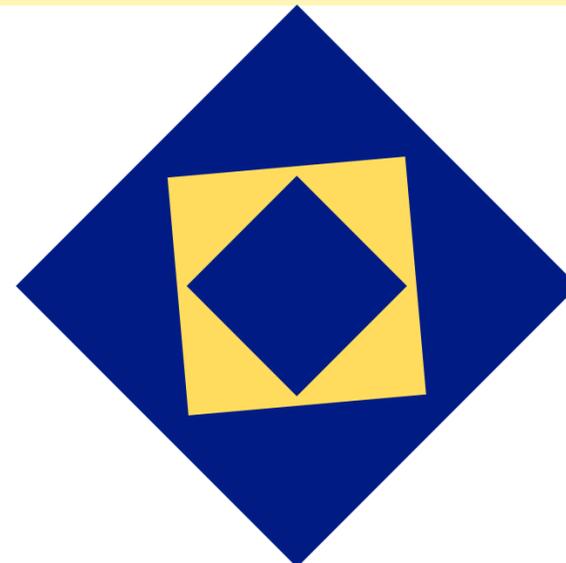
If you have enrolled in other assistance programs, do you find that the data intake process is more or less demanding?

# Your Advice

Based on your experience:

What people or resources made the SNAP recertification process easier?

What were the most difficult parts of the SNAP recertification process?



In a perfect world what would the SNAP recertification process look like?

What could help reduce SNAP churn?

# **Thank you!**

Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us. We hope to see you at our final meeting, where we'll share a summary of this work for your feedback.