

SNEB Advisory Committee on Public Policy

2023 Fall Policy Priority Survey Results

Methods

All members of division leadership received the policy survey and were instructed to distribute it amongst their divisions. Respondents were asked to rank a series of U.S. federal policies and policy-relevant topics as low, medium, or high priority. They were instructed to do so individually. 40 responses were received from 10 divisions.

Findings

The top 3 U.S. federal policy priorities:

1. Farm Bill: Nutrition Title (SNAP, TEFAP, etc.)
2. Child Nutrition Reauthorization (WIC, National School Lunch Program, etc.)
3. Farm Bill: Research, Extension, and Related Matters Title (land-grant universities, EFNEP, SNAP-Ed, etc.)

Members also noted other U.S. federal policies they prioritize:

- S. 2361: Senior Nutrition Task Force Act of 2023
- H.Res. 594: Recognizing the value of the Older Americans Act of 1965 nutrition program in addressing hunger, malnutrition, and isolation, and improving the health and quality of life for millions of our Nations seniors each year
- S. 2540: Tribal Nutrition Flexibility Act of 2023
- Policies related to poverty reduction (living wages, healthcare for all, childcare support)- upstream policies that clearly affect and could decrease the need for SNAP and WIC and make people healthier
- FDA and use by/sell by dates
- GusNIP Expansion Act
- OhSNAP Act, which includes support for GusNIP

The top 3 policy-relevant topic priorities:

1. Food and Nutrition Insecurity
2. Universal School Meals
3. Racism and Food Justice

Members also noted other policy-relevant topics they prioritize:

- Navigating policy and the history of nutrition policy
- Putting an end to definitions of food as "good" or "bad"- it is unhealthy and opens up opinions to start blocking foods vs. addressing actual needs
 - Shelf-stable foods often get listed as bad due to being labeled "ultra processed" (which is defined differently)- many people in food deserts need to rely on shelf-stable foods, especially if they have limited refrigeration and freezer space
- International nutrition education events of importance other than just UNCC
- Regarding the UN Climate Change Conference: more attention to the food system, agriculture, and food security
- Corporate consolidation and control in the food system
- Concentration, consolidation and centralization in food production, processing and retailing
- Increasing prevalence of ultra-processed foods in the food supply

- Erosion of the integrity of the National Organic Standards and consequently trust in the USDA organic seal

When asked which policies and/or topics they would be interested in learning more about as the topic of an ACPP webinar, members' top responses were:

1. Farm Bill: Research, Extension, and Related Matters Title (land-grant universities, EFNEP, SNAP-Ed, etc.)
2. Food and Nutrition Insecurity
3. Racism and Food Justice
4. Sustainability and Food Waste
5. Food Labeling Modernization Act

When asked how ACPP can assist the divisions, members responded:

Answer choices	Responses (%)
None of the above	5.88%
Educate the division(s) on a policy issue	67.65%
Help the division(s) advocate on a policy issue	52.94%
Help the division(s) organize a webinar on a policy issue	55.88%

One member left an additional comment on how ACPP can assist the divisions:

- Creating educational materials that could be shared with nutrition educators within higher education to help teach the importance of many of these policy areas