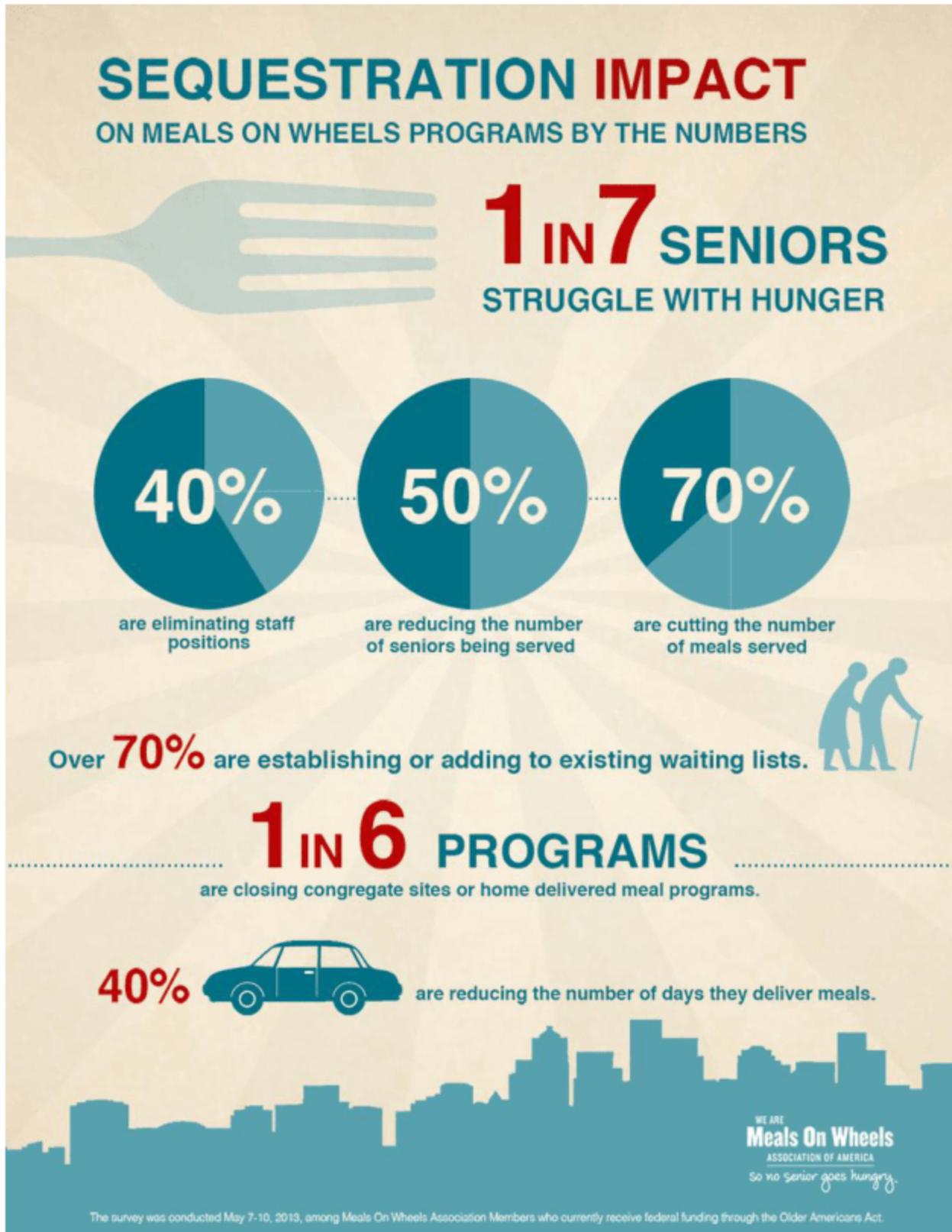


Hunger and the Sequester, By the Numbers



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Sequestration cuts will total \$1.2 trillion through fiscal year 2021. This year there is a 5.3 percent cut, totaling \$85 billion. The cuts are indiscriminate and will impact nearly every federal program.* Here are some of the ways this year's cut is affecting food and hunger programs, in America and abroad.

Domestic Programs

Meals for needy seniors lost in programs like Meals on Wheels (MOW): **4 million**

Savings from cut of 4 million meals: **\$10 million**

Rise in Medicaid costs due to cut of 4 million meals: **\$489 million**

Net cost to U.S. federal budget due to cut of 4 million meals: **\$479 million**

Loss of senior meals, California: **750,000**

Loss of senior breakfasts, Palm Beach County, Fla.: **240 daily**

Loss of senior meals in group dining facilities, Detroit suburbs and several counties: **86,000**

Loss of home-delivered and group dining senior meals, La Crosse County, Wis.: **6,000**

International Programs

Cuts to global poverty-focused development assistance (PFDA) programs: **\$1.1 billion**

People who will experience reduced or denied access to lifesaving food: **2.1 million**

Children who will experience reduced or denied access to school feeding programs: **234,000**

Children who will be unable to receive nutritional interventions that save lives and prevent irreversible damage caused by malnutrition: **605,625**

Farmers and small businesses in poor countries that won't receive support from Feed the Future, a program to help them lift themselves and their communities out of poverty: **1.17 million**

Reflections

Ellie Hollander, president and CEO of the Meals on Wheels Association of America: "The real [impact of sequester](#) is that our programs don't have the ability to expand to meet the growing need. We

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should be [investing in these programs](#) to ensure our seniors have the nutritious meals they need to remain healthy and independent.”

Patricia Hoeft, director of senior center nutrition, the Mid-East Area Agency on Aging (Missouri):
“How do I decide which [300 seniors](#) aren’t going to eat that day?”

Meals on Wheels recipient, home delivery program, La Crosse County, Wis.: “These meals are sometimes the only meal that I have a day. I don’t drive, so I have to rely on others to get around to doctors’ appointments. I only get [\\$16 a month for food](#).”

** Some low-income programs are exempt from cuts, including Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps), the refundable tax credits and some child nutrition programs.*

by Greg Kaufmann

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