

Present Perfect vs. Present Perfect Progressive

Use the Present Perfect (have/has + past participle) to talk about

- a finished past action
- an action that started in the past, continued in to the present, and *may* continue into the future
- with stative (non-action) verbs like *be*, *like*, *know*, *want*, *need*, *understand*, etc.
- how much or how many

Use the Present Perfect Progressive (have/has + been + -ing)

- to talk about an action that started in the past, continued into the present, and *will likely* continue into the future
- to focus on *the action itself* rather than *the completion* of the action
- to talk about situations that are unusual or not permanent

Choose the better option.

1. They _____ the President for a long time.
2. Usually she eats dinner at 7pm, but during the past week, she _____ earlier so she can go for a walk afterwards.
3. I _____ this cold for three weeks!
4. He _____ for six hours and still has two hours until his shift ends.
5. _____ the weather so far this summer?
6. We _____ four bags of potato chips and now there is nothing to eat.
7. I almost always get up by 6am, but this week, I _____ late.
8. She _____ a new car for a long time.
9. You _____ your test – congratulations!
10. The program _____ \$600 on food this year.
11. I _____ hard; after two more days of studying, I think I'll be ready to take my final exam.
12. They _____ enough money to buy a house now!
13. The teacher _____ to end class early several times this semester.