



Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation:

Summer Nutrition Status Report

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Acknowledgments

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About FRAC

The Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) is the leading national organization working for more effective public and private policies to eradicate domestic hunger and undernutrition. For more information about FRAC, Summer Nutrition Programs, or to sign up for FRAC's *Meals Matter Newsletter* or FRAC's *Weekly News Digest*, visit frac.org.



Executive Summary

The need to expand the reach of the Summer Nutrition Programs¹ is more important than ever as communities continue to respond to COVID-19's impacts on food security, education, and the economy. When school lets out, millions of low-income children lose access to the school breakfasts, lunches, and afterschool snacks and meals they receive during the regular school year. The Summer Nutrition Programs help fill this gap by providing free meals and snacks to children who might otherwise go hungry. These programs played an unprecedented and critical role when schools closed in the spring due to the pandemic, as communities turned to the Summer Nutrition Programs to serve the children who lost access to free and reduced-price school meals much as they do every year when schools close for summer vacation.

The Summer Nutrition Programs, in normal times, provide funding to sponsors, such as schools, local government agencies, and private nonprofit organizations, to offer healthy meals at sites that typically provide educational, enrichment, physical, and recreational activities. This combination helps combat summertime food insecurity, weight gain, and learning loss among children, all of which increase during the summer months for low-income children. The Summer



Nutrition Programs also play an important role in helping to meet child care needs.

This report analyzes national and state participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs in July 2019 when compared to participation in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) during the 2018–2019 school year.

Key Findings

- Almost 2.8 million children participated in the Summer Nutrition Programs on an average day in July 2019.
- Participation in summer lunch decreased by 77,000 participants in July 2019 when compared to July 2018. This was the fourth year in a row that participation declined.
- In July 2019, just 13.8 children received a summer lunch for every 100 low-income children who participated in NSLP during the school year. Just over 20 million children participated in NSLP during the 2018–2019 school year.
- Participation varied significantly across the country. The four highest-performing states (Vermont, New Mexico, New York, and Maine) and the District of Columbia served at least one child for every four who participated in free or reduced-price school lunch during the school year; whereas, the 11 lowest-performing states served just 1 in 10.

Why do the Summer Nutrition Programs continue to fall short of the need? The Summer Nutrition Programs that were implemented as schools closed due to COVID-19 can help shine a spotlight on the inherent challenges that the Summer Nutrition Programs face each year. When the school year ends, school nutrition departments and community-based sponsors work to quickly implement a summer meal program that runs for a very short amount of time. Programs must address transportation barriers, lack of awareness, and high eligibility thresholds that limit participation in

¹ The Summer Nutrition Programs include the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), which includes the Seamless Summer Option available through NSLP.

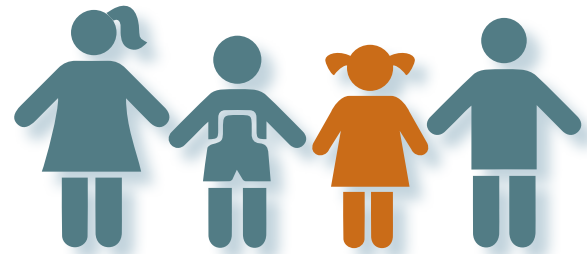
areas without a high concentration of poverty. And this is frequently done without the important foundation of structured summer school or summer programming to draw children to meal sites that keep them learning and engaged.

The impact of COVID-19 will be long-lasting, but it provides an important opportunity to take the lessons learned from this spring — and from the more than 50 years that the Summer Nutrition Programs have been operating — to reenergize, reimagine, and reinvest in the key programs meant to fill the nutrition gap when the school year ends.

There are clear steps forward to expand the reach of the Summer Nutrition Programs so that they better serve all of the families who need them.

A number of policy improvements that were made during COVID-19 could be implemented permanently by Congress to increase access to summer meals, including making more communities eligible to provide summer meals (currently, in order for a site to qualify to participate in the Summer Nutrition Programs, a meal site must either be in an area where at least 50 percent of the children are low-income or at least 50 percent of the children served by the site must be low-income children) and allowing sites to serve up to three meals per day (most sites can only provide two meals per day).

Next, as too many children continue to miss out on summer meals in rural and hard-to-reach areas, it is critical that additional funding be invested in the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program, which gives families additional resources to purchase food during the summer months and is a complement to the Summer Nutrition Programs. The Pandemic EBT program, which was created to provide nutritional support similar to Summer EBT, is providing households an EBT card with the value of the free school breakfast and lunch reimbursement rates for the days that schools were closed during COVID-19. This has led states to develop capacity and infrastructure to implement a



**The top performers reached
1 child for every 4 low-income children
who participated in school lunch.**

**District of Columbia, Vermont,
New Mexico, New York, and Maine**

similar program during the summer months if funding is made available for Summer EBT.

And lastly, it is essential that more federal, state, and local funding be funneled into summer programming. Although not required for Summer Nutrition Programs to operate, summer programs are key to creating and supporting strong, sustainable meal sites that keep children learning, safe, and engaged. While summer nutrition and summer learning have always gone hand-in-hand, this combination is especially important looking ahead. Preliminary research shows that summer learning loss will be exacerbated by COVID-19, resulting in students returning to school in the fall with 70 percent of the learning gains in reading and 50 percent of the gains in mathematics relative to a typical school year.²

With food insecurity at unprecedented levels and expected to continue to rise due to COVID-19,³ the Summer Nutrition Programs can — and should — better support families. Reaching 1 in 7 children who participate in school lunch is not enough. Increased investments in the Summer Nutrition Programs to serve more low-income families, combined with the implementation of best practices, such as intensive outreach, site recruitment, and reducing barriers to participation, will help eliminate the nutrition and summer learning opportunity gaps facing millions of children.

² Northwest Evaluation Association. (2020). *The COVID-19 slide: What summer learning loss can tell us about the potential impact of school closures on student academic achievement*. Available at: https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2020/05/Collaborative-Brief_Covid19-Slide-APR20.pdf. Accessed on July 9, 2020.

³ Feeding America. (2020). *The Impact of the Coronavirus on Local Food Insecurity*. Available at: https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2020-05/Brief_Local%20Impact_5.19.2020.pdf. Accessed on July 9, 2020.

About This Summer Food Report

This report measures the reach of the Summer Nutrition Programs in July 2019, nationally and in each state. It is based on a variety of metrics and examines the impact of trends and policies on program participation.

First, this report looks at average weekday lunch participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs — the combined lunch participation in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), which includes children participating through the NSLP Seamless Summer Option and those certified for free and reduced-price meals. The report then uses free and reduced-price participation in NSLP in the prior regular school year as a benchmark against which to compare summer. Because there is broad participation in the regular school year lunch program

by low-income students across the states, it is a useful comparison by which to measure how many students could and should be benefiting from the Summer Nutrition Programs.

Second, this report looks at the number of sponsors and sites operating SFSP, as this is an important indicator of access to the program for low-income children.

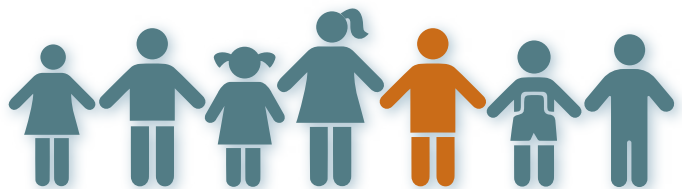
Finally, this report sets an ambitious but achievable goal of reaching 40 children with the Summer Nutrition Programs for every 100 participating in school lunch, and calculates the number of unserved children and the federal dollars lost in each state that is not meeting this goal.

National Findings for 2019

National participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs decreased modestly in 2019, marking the fourth year in a row of diminished participation. Both the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) saw a decrease in average daily participation.

- In July 2019, on an average weekday, the Summer Nutrition Programs served lunch to nearly 2.8 million children, a decrease of just over 77,000 children, or 2.7 percent, from July 2018.
- Of the 77,000, approximately 59,000 fewer children, or 3.2 percent, received a summer lunch through SFSP. July NSLP participation decreased by just over 18,000 children, or 1.8 percent.
- In July 2019, only 13.8 children received summer lunch for every 100 low-income children who received a school lunch in the 2018–2019 school year.
- The ratio of 13.8 to 100 is lower than July 2018 (14.1 to 100). The lower ratio is driven by the drop in participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs and is mitigated by a decrease of about 210,000 low-income children participating in school lunch during the 2018–2019 school year compared to the previous school year.

- The number of SFSP sponsors and sites decreased from July 2018 to July 2019. Nationally, 5,547 sponsors (a decrease of 28 sponsors) and 47,545 sites (a decrease of 1,154 sites) participated in July 2019.
- The Summer Nutrition Programs are designed to provide meals to children throughout the entire summer, but more work is needed to ensure that sites are open all summer long. In June 2019, the number of SFSP lunches decreased compared to the previous summer by 5.8 percent (1.8 million). In August 2019, the number of SFSP lunches decreased by 6.4 percent (771,000 meals).



Nationally, the Summer Nutrition Programs reached 1 child for every 7 low-income children who participated in school lunch.

The Summer Nutrition Programs

The two federal Summer Nutrition Programs — the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Seamless Summer Option and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) — provide funding to serve meals and snacks to children at sites where at least 50 percent of the children in the geographic area are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals; at sites in which at least 50 percent of the children participating in the program at the site are individually determined eligible for free or reduced-price school meals; and at sites that serve primarily migrant children. Once a site is determined eligible, all of the children that come to the site can eat for free. Summer camps also can participate, but they are only reimbursed for the meals served to children who are individually eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. NSLP also reimburses schools for feeding children eligible for free or reduced-price meals who attend summer school.

Public and private nonprofit schools, local government agencies, National Youth Sports Programs, and private nonprofit organizations can participate in SFSP and sponsor one or more sites. Only schools are eligible to participate in NSLP (but the schools can use the NSLP Seamless Summer Option to provide meals and snacks at non-school and school sites over the summer). A sponsor enters into an agreement with their state agency to run the program and receives reimbursement for each eligible meal and snack served at meal sites. A site is the physical location where children receive meals during the summer. Sites work directly with sponsors.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides the funding for these programs through a state agency in each state, usually the state department of education, health, or agriculture.

State Findings for 2019

The reach of the Summer Nutrition Programs varied throughout the country, with the lowest-performing state (Oklahoma) serving in July 2019 one child for every 20 low-income children who participated in school lunch during the 2018–2019 school year, and the best performing jurisdiction, the District of Columbia, serving one-third of such children. Only 20 states increased participation in July 2019 compared to 2018.

- Among the four top-performing states and the District of Columbia, at least 1 in 4 children received a summer lunch in July 2019 when compared to participation in the 2018–2019 school year free and reduced-price National School Lunch Program (NSLP). The top performers included the District of Columbia (37.7 to 100), Vermont (33.5 to 100), New Mexico (27.7 to 100), New York (27.5 to 100), and Maine (26.5 to 100).
- There were two additional states that reached one child with summer lunch for every five low-income children who participated in school lunch: Maryland (23.1 to 100) and New Jersey (22.4 to 100).
- Eleven states provided summer lunch to fewer than one child for every 10 low-income children who participated in school lunch: Oklahoma (4.9 to 100), Louisiana (5.1 to 100), West Virginia (6.6 to 100), Mississippi (7.3 to 100), Nebraska (7.3 to 100), Texas (7.3 to 100), Nevada (8.0 to 100), Hawaii (8.7 to 100), Missouri (9.0 to 100), Colorado (9.5 to 100), and Kansas (9.5 to 100).
- Four states increased the number of participants in the Summer Nutrition Programs by more than 10 percent: Arizona (21.3 percent), Kentucky (16.7 percent), North Dakota (12.4 percent), and Alaska (11.8 percent).

- While this report focuses on participation in NSLP and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) combined during the month of July — because it is impossible to determine for June and August how many days were regular school days and how many were summer vacation days — it is important to note that 23 states served more lunches through SFSP during the month of June than in July. Three states served more than twice as many lunches through SFSP in June than in July: Louisiana, Missouri, and Nebraska.
- In 2019, several states continued to address the gaps that often exist at the beginning and end of the summer by increasing the number of SFSP lunches provided. Eighteen states increased the number of SFSP lunches served in June, and 18 increased the number of SFSP lunches served in August.



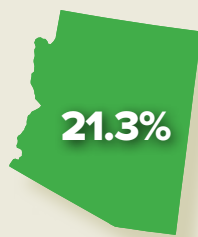
Missed Opportunities

The Summer Nutrition Programs provide federal funding to states so they can provide healthy summer meals that help reduce childhood hunger and improve nutrition. For states, this is an opportunity to bring in additional federal dollars by serving more children and more meals. These dollars provide a sustainable funding source to summer programs and support summer employment.

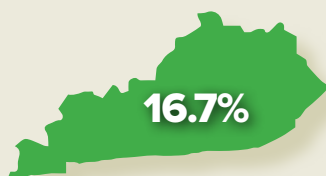
For every lunch that an eligible child did not receive in 2019, the state and community missed out on \$3.9675 per child in federal Summer Food Service Program funding. That means many millions of dollars were left on the table. If every state had reached the goal of 40 children participating in the Summer Nutrition Programs in July 2019 for every 100 receiving free or reduced-price lunch during the 2018–2019 school year, an additional 5.2 million children would have been fed each day. States would have collected an additional \$458 million in child nutrition funding in July alone (assuming the program operated 22 days).

The six states that missed out on the most federal funding and failed to feed the most children by falling short of the 40-to-100 goal were Texas (\$71.2 million; 816,204 children), California (\$49.7 million; 568,900 children), Florida (\$31.3 million; 358,971 children), Georgia (\$19.1 million; 219,175 children), Illinois (\$18.2 million; 208,935 children), and Ohio (\$15.2 million; 174,602 children).

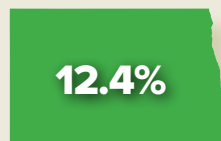
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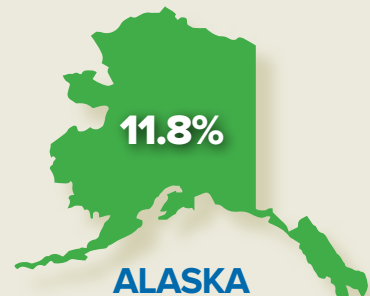
ARIZONA



KENTUCKY



NORTH DAKOTA



ALASKA

A History of the Summer Nutrition Programs

The Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) turns 50 this year, and throughout its history, FRAC has worked to expand the reach of the Summer Nutrition Programs through research, advocacy, outreach, and training efforts. Through the years, Congress has made a number of cuts to the Summer Nutrition Programs that have limited access to summer meals. Much of FRAC's advocacy work has focused on opposing and reversing many of those legislative changes. Below are major milestones in the history of the Summer Nutrition Programs and FRAC's role in supporting them.

1975 — **The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** was created as a separate program through P.L. 94-105, after being piloted along with child care feeding under the Special Food Service Program for Children in 1968.

1981 — **The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981** made significant cuts to the child nutrition programs that reduced access to summer meals, including increasing the percentage of children required to be low-income (defined as being eligible for free or reduced-price school lunch) for an area to be eligible to have a summer meal site from one-third to one-half, and prohibiting private nonprofit organizations (that were not schools or camps) from sponsoring SFSP. These changes significantly reduced the number of communities that could participate and the number of sponsors that could operate SFSP; participation dropped by 26 percent from 1981 to 1982: from 1.9 million children participating in July 1981 to less than 1.4 million children in July 1982.⁴

1989 — **The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 1989 (P.L. 101-147)** allowed private nonprofit organization sponsors (in addition to schools and camps) to again sponsor SFSP, but required them to operate under additional rules, such as limiting the number of sites and children that they could serve.

1993 — FRAC released its first ***Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Summer Nutrition Status*** report, which analyzed participation in the Summer Nutrition Programs both at the national and state level.

1994 — **Healthy Meals for Healthy Americans Act (P.L. Law 103-448)** provided startup and expansion grants, and eased some of the administrative requirements of private nonprofit sponsors. The Act also allowed SFSP to provide meals during emergency school closures, which has allowed the Summer Nutrition Programs to respond to COVID-19.

1996 — **The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-193)** made a major cut in SFSP reimbursements and eliminated SFSP startup and expansion grants.

1998 — **The William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-336)** modified the restrictions on participation by private nonprofit organizations, which included increasing the number of sites they could sponsor from five to 25.

2001 — FRAC worked with Senator Lugar (R-IN) to pilot the **Simplified Summer Food** rules in 13 states and Puerto Rico through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2001 (P.L. 106-554). The pilot eliminated "cost-based accounting" for public sponsors, which allowed those sponsors to receive the full reimbursement and reduced administrative work for sponsors and State child nutrition agencies.

⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture. (2020). Summer Food Service Program data. Available at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/program-history>. Accessed on July 12, 2020.

2004 — FRAC’s advocacy was critical to the summer investments in the [Child Nutrition Reauthorization of 2004 \(P.L. 108-265\)](#), which included expanding the Simplified Summer Food rules to six additional states and including private nonprofit sponsors; codifying the Seamless Summer Option available through the National School Lunch Program (which had been available through a waiver process); providing funding for rural transportation grants; and piloting lowering the area eligibility threshold from 50 to 40 percent in rural areas in Pennsylvania ([which resulted in a 15 percent increase in rural summer food sites](#)).

2005 — Washington state passed legislation that requires all school districts operating a summer program to operate SFSP if at least 50 percent of their students are eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Additional states soon followed with FRAC’s support and technical assistance.

2007 — [The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 \(P.L. 110-161\)](#) extended the Simplified Summer Food rules to all sponsors in all states.

2008 — FRAC issued the [Summer Food Standards of Excellence](#) to challenge summer food sponsors to improve the nutritional quality and appeal of summer meals.

2009 — FRAC’s research and lobbying were critical to the dedication of \$85 million for demonstration projects to develop and test methods of providing access to food for low-income children in urban and rural areas during the summer months through the Agriculture Appropriations Act (P.L. 111-80). [Summer EBT](#) — one of the most promising demonstration projects — provided an EBT card to families whose children are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals to purchase food at retailers. Evaluations found that Summer EBT reduces food insecurity and improves nutrition, and Congress has continued to invest in Summer EBT through annual appropriation bills.

2010 — [The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act](#) removed all special requirements for private nonprofit summer food sponsors.

2012 — FRAC partnered with the National League of Cities to create the [Cities Combatting Hunger \(CHAMPS\)](#) initiative in order to work with cities to increase participation in summer and afterschool meals. In its first seven years, this work helped 77 cities feed over 152,000 children more than 12.5 million meals.

2013 — FRAC supported the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s summer meals target state initiative by providing trainings and additional support in states selected for increased technical assistance. This initiative continued until 2017.

2014 — FRAC partnered with the YMCA of the USA to provide summer meals support alongside grant funding to thousands of eligible, non-participating YMCAs across the country.

2019 — An audit of the Summer Food Service Program by the Office of the Inspector General resulted in the rescission of several key nationwide summer food program waivers. FRAC worked to support state agencies and sponsors in their efforts to reinstate the waivers.

2020 — COVID-19 results in the closure of schools and early implementation of the Summer Nutrition Programs in communities across the country. FRAC assists schools and community-based sponsors in sustaining meal programs throughout summer.

Reimagining Summer Meals: Opportunities for Increasing Participation

The Summer Nutrition Programs have many [strengths](#). As entitlement programs, they are able to expand to meet the need, and can be adapted to fit urban, suburban, and rural communities. They also are not tied to a programming requirement, like the Afterschool Meal Program, although sites that provide meals alongside activities historically see higher participation. All of the meals provided through the Summer Nutrition Programs also must meet federal nutrition standards, with many sponsors going beyond those standards by incorporating fresh, local foods and serving a variety of menu items.

Despite the clear benefits, the Summer Nutrition Programs have lost ground over the last four years, compared to participation in the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program. Some of this is due to their structure; unlike the federal school

breakfast and lunch programs, the Summer Nutrition Programs must meet families where they are during the summer months, free of the captive audience provided by a traditional school environment. However, the Summer Nutrition Programs can — and have — served more children than they currently serve.

Across the country, schools and community sponsors operating the Summer Nutrition Programs are serving families in unprecedented circumstances. There have been many lessons learned, allowing time to reevaluate and reassess best practices and barriers in order to highlight strategies to make targeted investments to reduce summer hunger. Combined, the following approaches — many of which have been addressed during COVID-19 — would result in stronger Summer Nutrition Programs.

Child Nutrition Programs During COVID-19

As schools across the country closed in response to COVID-19, schools and other Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors turned to the Summer Nutrition Programs to provide nutritious meals to children who lost access to school breakfasts and lunches. All key stakeholders played an important role in supporting this transition. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) quickly issued policy guidance and approved state waivers; State child nutrition agencies quickly approved sponsors and sites; and schools and other SFSP sponsors quickly set up their programs. In addition, Congress took action. To overcome some of the barriers to operating the Summer Nutrition Programs during a pandemic, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act expanded USDA's waiver authority to allow it to issue nationwide waivers, as well as waivers that increase the cost of operating the child nutrition programs. With this authority, USDA issued

a number of nationwide waivers that have supported access to summer meals as sites have had to socially distance and respond to the dramatic increase in need. Below are some of these waivers:

- Area Eligibility, which allows meals to be offered at sites that do not meet the 50 percent area eligibility requirement;
- Meal Times, which allows meals to be served outside traditional times to maximize flexibility for meal pick up;
- Non-Congregate Feeding, which allows meals to be served in a non-group setting (i.e., allowing for “grab and go” and delivered meals); and
- Parent/Guardian Meal Pick-Up, which allows parents/guardians to pick up meals for the child without the child being present.

Lowering the area eligibility threshold from 50 percent. Currently, most summer sites qualify by demonstrating that they are located in a low-income area in which at least 50 percent of the children are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. This keeps many communities where poverty is less concentrated, such as rural and suburban areas, from participating. [Lowering the eligibility threshold from 50 percent would allow more communities to serve children whose families are struggling and would improve access to summer meals in every state.](#) In response to COVID-19, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a nationwide waiver to allow summer food sponsors to operate sites in areas that do not meet the 50 percent threshold. This has been essential to reaching children that were newly eligible due to the changing economy, and highlights the limitations of the 50 percent threshold in reaching children who need summer meals.

Streamline the Summer Food Service Program and Afterschool Meal Program. Many sites that operate the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) also serve meals after school during the school year through the [Child and Adult Care Food Program \(CACFP\)](#). Currently, sponsors must apply for and operate two separate programs despite the fact they often serve the same children. Allowing SFSP sponsors to operate year-round would encourage overall program retention as well as eliminate duplicative and burdensome paperwork while supporting sponsors' efforts to serve more children in their community.

Allow all summer meal sites to serve three meals. Most sites can only provide a maximum of two meals per day. When schools closed in response to COVID-19, USDA allowed sponsors to provide children three nutritious meals per day by combining the breakfast and lunch available through the Summer Nutrition Programs with the supper (and snack) available through the CACFP Afterschool Meal Program. This also aligns summer with the school year, when children can receive breakfast and lunch at school, and an afterschool supper and snack through the Afterschool Supper Program.

Summer Learning and Summer Programs

Many of the children who face a nutrition gap when the school year ends also are affected disproportionately by the “summer slide,” or the loss of knowledge and skills gained during the school year. Summer programs offer an important opportunity to counter the summer learning gaps, but too many low-income families have been unable to access summer programs due to cost or availability.

In normal times, summer nutrition and summer learning are interconnected. Summer enrichment programs provide the foundation for summer meals, helping to draw children to sites; conversely, eligible summer programs rely on the federal funding available through the Summer Nutrition Programs to provide meals, allowing them to stretch already tight budgets. With millions of children missing months of face-to-face instruction this spring, and many summer and afterschool programs still shuttered, the full impact of COVID-19 on children's learning is unknown. However, early research shows that children in underserved communities will be hit hardest.⁵ Looking ahead, summer programs and additional investments in them will be even more critical to support learning and counter the acute learning loss caused by the COVID-19 school closures. Learn more about opportunities to expand out-of-school time programming by visiting the [Afterschool Alliance](#) and the [National Summer Learning Association](#).

Increase funding for Summer EBT. Providing families whose children qualify for free and reduced-price school meals a [Summer EBT](#) card to purchase food at retail

⁵ Brookings. (2020). *The impact of COVID-19 on student achievement and what it may mean for educators*. Available at: <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brown-center-chalkboard/2020/05/27/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-student-achievement-and-what-it-may-mean-for-educators/>. Accessed on July 9, 2020.

stores is a proven method for reducing food security and improving nutrition. Summer EBT offers an important opportunity to fill the gap in rural and other areas where access to summer meals is limited. Currently, the program is available in Michigan, Wisconsin, the Chickasaw Nation, and the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona. Summer EBT has been funded through the

annual agriculture appropriations bill, which is one of 12 appropriations bills that the House and Senate pass each year to keep government programs funded. During COVID-19, Congress acted to create the Pandemic EBT program. Similar to Summer EBT, it provides an important resource for struggling families who rely on free or reduced-price meals when schools are open.

Conclusion

Meeting children’s nutritional and educational needs year-round is critical during normal times and should not end when schools close for the summer. As schools across the country closed their doors in response to COVID-19, the impact of lost school meals combined with the corresponding economic crisis has driven food insecurity among families with children to unprecedented levels with more than 1 in 3 families with children experiencing food insecurity in April 2020.⁶ The crisis has highlighted the role that school meals play in keeping hunger at bay for millions of low-income families across the country and what it really means for struggling families when they lose access to those meals.

The Summer Nutrition Programs served about 2.8 million children lunch in July 2019, just 1 child for every 7 low-income children who participated in school lunch during the 2018–2019 school year. Clear strategies and

solutions exist to reverse this trend, such as streamlining the program and reducing the eligibility threshold, which would eliminate barriers and create opportunities to reach more families. Increasing funding for summer enrichment and educational activities would effectively provide a foundation for summer meals by closing the summer hunger and learning gaps that too many children struggle with each summer.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, state agencies, and anti-hunger, summer, and child advocates have worked closely together to respond to the increased need during the pandemic, which has forced communities to adjust summer meal site operations. Those efforts should become the status quo for providing summer meals every summer so that every child returns to school at the end of the summer well-nourished and ready to learn.

⁶ Northwestern University. (2020). *Food Insecurity Triples for Families During COVID-19 Pandemic*. Available at: <https://www.ipr.northwestern.edu/news/2020/food-insecurity-triples-for-families-during-covid.html>. Accessed on July 9, 2020.

Technical Notes

The data in this report are collected from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and from an annual survey of state child nutrition officials conducted by the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC).

This report does not include the Summer Nutrition Programs in Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, or Department of Defense schools.

Due to rounding, totals in the tables may not add up to 100 percent.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

USDA provided to FRAC the number of SFSP lunches served in each state. FRAC calculated each state's July average daily lunch participation in SFSP by dividing the total number of SFSP lunches served in July by the total number of weekdays in July (excluding the Independence Day holiday).

The average daily lunch participation numbers for July reported in FRAC's analysis are slightly different from USDA's average daily participation numbers. FRAC's revised measure allows consistent comparisons from state to state and year to year. This measure also is more in line with the average daily lunch participation numbers in the school year National School Lunch Program (NSLP), as described below.

FRAC uses July data because it is impossible to determine for June and August how many days were regular school days, and how many were summer vacation days. Due to limitations in USDA's data, it also is not possible in those months to separate NSLP data to determine if meals were served as part of the summer program or as part of the regular school year.

USDA obtains the July numbers of sponsors and sites from the states and reports them as the states provide them. USDA does not report the number of sponsors or sites for June or August.

For this report, FRAC gave states the opportunity to update the July data on sponsors and sites, and the total number of lunches for June, July, and August that FRAC obtained from USDA. The state changes are included.

National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Using data provided by USDA, FRAC calculated the regular school year NSLP average daily low-income student attendance for each state, based on the number of free and reduced-price meals served from September through May.

FRAC used the July average daily attendance figures provided by USDA for the summertime NSLP participation data in this report. The NSLP summer meal numbers include all of the free and reduced-price lunches served through NSLP during July. This includes lunches served at summer school, through the NSLP Seamless Summer Option, and on regular school days (during July).

Note that USDA calculates average daily participation in the regular school year NSLP by dividing the average daily lunch figures by an attendance factor (0.927) to account for children who were absent from school on a particular day. FRAC's annual *School Breakfast Scorecard* reports these NSLP average daily participation numbers; that is, including the attendance factor. To make the NSLP numbers consistent with the SFSP numbers, for which there is no analogous attendance factor, this report — *Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation* — does not include the attendance factor. As a result, the regular school year NSLP numbers in this report do not match the NSLP numbers in FRAC's *School Breakfast Scorecard, School Year 2018–2019*.

The Cost of Low Participation

For each state, FRAC calculated the average daily number of children receiving summer nutrition in July for every 100 children receiving free or reduced-price lunches during the regular school year. FRAC then calculated the number of additional children who would be reached if that state achieved a 40-to-100 ratio of summer nutrition to regular school year lunch participation. FRAC then multiplied this unserved population by the summer lunch reimbursement rate for 22 days (the number of weekdays in July 2019, not counting the Independence Day holiday) of SFSP lunches. FRAC assumed each meal is reimbursed at the lowest standard rate available (\$3.9675 per lunch for July 2019).

Table 1:**Average Daily Participation (ADP) in Summer Nutrition¹ in July 2018 and July 2019, Compared to Regular School Year National School Lunch Program (NSLP)² ADP for School Years 2017–2018 and 2018–2019, by State**

State	Summer Nutrition ADP July 2018	NSLP ADP 2017–2018	Ratio ³ of Summer Nutrition to NSLP 2017–2018	Rank 2017–2018	Summer Nutrition ADP July 2019	NSLP ADP 2018–2019	Ratio ³ of Summer Nutrition to NSLP 2018–2019	Rank 2018–2019	Percent Change in Summer Nutrition ADP 2018–2019
Alabama	36,351	353,725	10.3	36	35,691	353,827	10.1	40	-1.8%
Alaska	3,719	38,630	9.6	38	4,160	37,174	11.2	32	11.8%
Arizona	56,979	453,132	12.6	30	69,099	440,636	15.7	21	21.3%
Arkansas	24,246	222,748	10.9	34	24,577	222,134	11.1	34	1.4%
California	413,455	2,394,192	17.3	13	398,577	2,418,693	16.5	17	-3.6%
Colorado	19,588	217,977	9.0	40	19,773	208,617	9.5	42	0.9%
Connecticut	33,977	165,497	20.5	8	34,736	183,027	19.0	9	2.2%
Delaware	10,415	61,952	16.8	16	10,673	60,650	17.6	14	2.5%
District of Columbia	15,274	44,225	34.5	1	14,983	39,776	37.7	1	-1.9%
Florida	194,458	1,435,477	13.5	29	189,431	1,371,006	13.8	27	-2.6%
Georgia ⁴	140,181	854,861	16.4	14	112,495	829,176	13.6	28	-19.8%
Hawaii	5,353	61,059	8.8	43	5,230	60,079	8.7	44	-2.3%
Idaho	17,869	89,446	20.0	9	16,154	85,659	18.9	10	-9.6%
Illinois	87,412	765,565	11.4	32	86,772	739,267	11.7	31	-0.7%
Indiana	68,609	422,701	16.2	20	63,377	420,416	15.1	24	-7.6%
Iowa	18,625	170,725	10.9	33	18,466	178,321	10.4	37	-0.9%
Kansas	17,154	179,734	9.5	39	16,744	176,132	9.5	41	-2.4%
Kentucky	35,528	399,004	8.9	41	41,449	402,568	10.3	38	16.7%
Louisiana	24,918	426,783	5.8	50	21,419	422,890	5.1	50	-14.0%
Maine	15,214	55,503	27.4	3	14,216	53,673	26.5	5	-6.6%
Maryland	65,425	292,141	22.4	7	65,366	282,772	23.1	6	-0.1%
Massachusetts	53,772	321,844	16.7	18	52,392	317,337	16.5	16	-2.6%
Michigan	65,338	522,219	12.5	31	60,720	548,381	11.1	33	-7.1%
Minnesota	46,437	268,450	17.3	12	48,114	261,705	18.4	12	3.6%
Mississippi	24,034	285,750	8.4	45	20,316	276,586	7.3	46	-15.5%
Missouri	29,343	344,534	8.5	44	30,036	332,241	9.0	43	2.4%
Montana	9,091	46,388	19.6	10	8,955	45,058	19.9	8	-1.5%
Nebraska	8,470	119,859	7.1	49	8,761	120,184	7.3	48	3.4%
Nevada	13,688	171,016	8.0	47	13,731	171,812	8.0	45	0.3%
New Hampshire	4,826	32,806	14.7	25	4,848	31,875	15.2	23	0.5%
New Jersey	95,512	420,665	22.7	6	91,698	409,752	22.4	7	-4.0%
New Mexico	45,816	169,904	27.0	5	44,973	162,650	27.7	3	-1.8%
New York	348,387	1,283,314	27.1	4	354,712	1,288,283	27.5	4	1.8%
North Carolina	90,724	632,182	14.4	27	85,055	612,905	13.9	26	-6.2%
North Dakota	2,823	31,737	8.9	42	3,172	31,272	10.1	39	12.4%
Ohio	61,926	610,719	10.1	37	61,575	590,442	10.4	36	-0.6%
Oklahoma	16,612	302,847	5.5	51	14,501	295,742	4.9	51	-12.7%
Oregon	30,808	199,394	15.5	23	30,030	187,194	16.0	18	-2.5%
Pennsylvania	89,416	637,906	14.0	28	83,734	638,671	13.1	29	-6.4%
Rhode Island	9,235	48,855	18.9	11	8,047	48,074	16.7	15	-12.9%
South Carolina	54,749	341,803	16.0	21	53,772	337,473	15.9	19	-1.8%
South Dakota	7,640	46,024	16.6	19	7,131	45,163	15.8	20	-6.7%
Tennessee	69,516	478,271	14.5	26	55,011	451,656	12.2	30	-20.9%
Texas	178,430	2,471,624	7.2	48	182,871	2,497,687	7.3	47	2.5%
Utah	25,886	154,126	16.8	17	26,870	147,666	18.2	13	3.8%
Vermont	7,826	25,236	31.0	2	7,928	23,701	33.5	2	1.3%
Virginia	64,294	424,401	15.1	24	60,598	423,640	14.3	25	-5.7%
Washington	34,867	328,735	10.6	35	35,688	327,328	10.9	35	2.4%
West Virginia	11,228	135,605	8.3	46	8,923	134,804	6.6	49	-20.5%
Wisconsin	41,996	266,666	15.7	22	42,470	273,343	15.5	22	1.1%
Wyoming	4,012	23,677	16.9	15	4,161	22,275	18.7	11	3.7%
US	2,851,457	20,251,633	14.1		2,774,183	20,041,391	13.8		-2.7%

¹ Summer Nutrition includes the Summer Food Service Program and free and reduced-price National School Lunch Program, including the Seamless Summer Option.² School Year NSLP numbers reflect free and reduced-price lunch participation during the regular school year.³ Ratio of Summer Nutrition to NSLP is the number of children in Summer Nutrition per 100 in NSLP.⁴ The Georgia state child nutrition agency updated average daily participation data for the National School Lunch Program for July 2018. Georgia's ranking remained the same. National numbers for 2018 were adjusted accordingly.

Table 2:**Change in Summer Food Service Program Average Daily Participation (ADP) and in National School Lunch Program (NSLP) ADP from July 2018 to July 2019, by State**

State	SFSP ADP July 2018	SFSP ADP July 2019	SFSP ADP Percent Change 2018–2019	NSLP ADP July 2018	NSLP ADP July 2019	NSLP ADP Percent Change 2018–2019
Alabama	31,771	30,763	-3.2%	4,580	4,927	7.6%
Alaska	3,086	3,631	17.7%	633	529	-16.4%
Arizona	9,824	11,411	16.1%	47,155	57,689	22.3%
Arkansas	12,860	10,941	-14.9%	11,387	13,636	19.8%
California	99,730	93,801	-5.9%	313,725	304,776	-2.9%
Colorado	17,474	18,050	3.3%	2,114	1,723	-18.5%
Connecticut	27,028	25,804	-4.5%	6,949	8,932	28.5%
Delaware	9,520	10,019	5.2%	895	654	-27.0%
District of Columbia	13,065	12,846	-1.7%	2,209	2,137	-3.3%
Florida	168,172	161,928	-3.7%	26,286	27,503	4.6%
Georgia ¹	56,810	52,250	-8.0%	83,371	60,245	-27.7%
Hawaii	1,763	1,671	-5.2%	3,590	3,560	-0.8%
Idaho	17,246	15,601	-9.5%	624	553	-11.3%
Illinois	71,692	71,293	-0.6%	15,720	15,478	-1.5%
Indiana	29,928	27,635	-7.7%	38,682	35,743	-7.6%
Iowa	17,149	16,897	-1.5%	1,476	1,569	6.3%
Kansas	15,962	15,601	-2.3%	1,193	1,144	-4.1%
Kentucky	34,773	38,227	9.9%	755	3,222	326.7%
Louisiana	22,730	19,232	-15.4%	2,188	2,187	-0.1%
Maine	14,903	13,865	-7.0%	311	351	12.9%
Maryland	64,083	63,509	-0.9%	1,342	1,858	38.5%
Massachusetts	45,941	43,820	-4.6%	7,830	8,572	9.5%
Michigan	53,561	50,764	-5.2%	11,777	9,956	-15.5%
Minnesota	41,059	42,333	3.1%	5,378	5,780	7.5%
Mississippi	22,143	18,350	-17.1%	1,892	1,966	3.9%
Missouri	24,161	25,332	4.8%	5,183	4,704	-9.2%
Montana	8,504	8,346	-1.9%	587	608	3.7%
Nebraska	7,629	7,625	-0.1%	841	1,136	35.2%
Nevada	7,743	7,632	-1.4%	5,945	6,100	2.6%
New Hampshire	4,106	4,133	0.7%	720	715	-0.7%
New Jersey	70,625	70,880	0.4%	24,887	20,818	-16.3%
New Mexico	24,402	20,663	-15.3%	21,414	24,311	13.5%
New York	278,670	276,439	-0.8%	69,717	78,273	12.3%
North Carolina	62,679	63,352	1.1%	28,045	21,703	-22.6%
North Dakota	2,586	2,942	13.8%	237	230	-3.0%
Ohio	52,417	49,889	-4.8%	9,509	11,687	22.9%
Oklahoma	13,216	13,311	0.7%	3,396	1,190	-65.0%
Oregon	27,927	27,030	-3.2%	2,881	3,000	4.1%
Pennsylvania	61,731	58,620	-5.0%	27,685	25,114	-9.3%
Rhode Island	8,404	7,570	-9.9%	830	477	-42.5%
South Carolina	31,707	27,215	-14.2%	23,043	26,558	15.3%
South Dakota	6,071	5,813	-4.2%	1,569	1,317	-16.1%
Tennessee	34,149	29,112	-14.7%	35,367	25,899	-26.8%
Texas	85,268	79,963	-6.2%	93,162	102,909	10.5%
Utah	1,691	2,005	18.6%	24,195	24,865	2.8%
Vermont	7,478	7,743	3.5%	348	184	-46.9%
Virginia	53,897	52,047	-3.4%	10,397	8,551	-17.8%
Washington	29,397	30,876	5.0%	5,470	4,812	-12.0%
West Virginia	9,578	7,599	-20.7%	1,650	1,325	-19.7%
Wisconsin	38,689	39,439	1.9%	3,308	3,031	-8.4%
Wyoming	3,651	3,832	5.0%	361	329	-9.1%
US	1,858,647	1,799,650	-3.2%	992,810	974,533	-1.8%

¹ The Georgia state child nutrition agency updated average daily participation data for the National School Lunch Program for July 2018. Georgia's ranking remained the same. National numbers for 2018 were adjusted accordingly.

Table 3:**Change in Number of Summer Food Service Program Sponsors and Sites from July 2018 to July 2019, by State**

State	Sponsors July 2018	Sponsors July 2019	Sponsors Percent Change	Sites July 2018	Sites July 2019	Sites Percent Change
Alabama	109	96	-11.9%	1,006	935	-7.1%
Alaska	27	27	0.0%	165	153	-7.3%
Arizona	39	41	5.1%	332	347	4.5%
Arkansas	97	107	10.3%	330	271	-17.9%
California	181	174	-3.9%	2,329	2,221	-4.6%
Colorado	76	80	5.3%	552	537	-2.7%
Connecticut	43	41	-4.7%	525	511	-2.7%
Delaware	29	32	10.3%	309	341	10.4%
District of Columbia	17	15	-11.8%	290	300	3.4%
Florida	143	134	-6.3%	3,688	3,547	-3.8%
Georgia	83	77	-7.2%	1,270	1,137	-10.5%
Hawaii	20	21	5.0%	98	98	0.0%
Idaho	58	58	0.0%	269	236	-12.3%
Illinois	144	140	-2.8%	1,772	1,804	1.8%
Indiana	231	216	-6.5%	1,297	1,217	-6.2%
Iowa	149	148	-0.7%	440	488	10.9%
Kansas	142	148	4.2%	537	525	-2.2%
Kentucky	152	163	7.2%	1,928	2,220	15.1%
Louisiana	71	57	-19.7%	443	436	-1.6%
Maine	119	114	-4.2%	439	446	1.6%
Maryland	44	43	-2.3%	1,347	1,338	-0.7%
Massachusetts	108	110	1.9%	1,094	1,111	1.6%
Michigan	323	327	1.2%	1,656	1,583	-4.4%
Minnesota	194	195	0.5%	865	900	4.0%
Mississippi	123	116	-5.7%	590	598	1.4%
Missouri	126	130	3.2%	769	814	5.9%
Montana	81	85	4.9%	230	232	0.9%
Nebraska	66	71	7.6%	192	188	-2.1%
Nevada	28	29	3.6%	257	201	-21.8%
New Hampshire	27	28	3.7%	173	182	5.2%
New Jersey	128	135	5.5%	1,426	1,444	1.3%
New Mexico	58	53	-8.6%	675	536	-20.6%
New York	377	381	1.1%	3,121	2,968	-4.9%
North Carolina	131	138	5.3%	2,093	2,157	3.1%
North Dakota	33	35	6.1%	81	97	19.8%
Ohio	179	182	1.7%	1,650	1,630	-1.2%
Oklahoma	75	76	1.3%	570	596	4.6%
Oregon	136	137	0.7%	777	785	1.0%
Pennsylvania	304	293	-3.6%	2,716	2,458	-9.5%
Rhode Island	26	26	0.0%	224	216	-3.6%
South Carolina	77	77	0.0%	1,723	1,590	-7.7%
South Dakota	47	44	-6.4%	94	87	-7.4%
Tennessee	48	43	-10.4%	1,343	1,286	-4.2%
Texas	248	204	-17.7%	3,194	2,697	-15.6%
Utah	14	13	-7.1%	67	82	22.4%
Vermont	58	58	0.0%	274	268	-2.2%
Virginia	133	142	6.8%	1,309	1,518	16.0%
Washington	148	161	8.8%	817	846	3.5%
West Virginia	97	104	7.2%	474	445	-6.1%
Wisconsin	178	193	8.4%	786	827	5.2%
Wyoming	30	29	-3.3%	93	95	2.2%
US	5,575	5,547	-0.5%	48,699	47,545	-2.4%

Table 4:**Number of Summer Food Service Program Lunches Served in June, July,¹ and August 2018 and 2019, by State**

State	Lunches June 2018	Lunches June 2019	Percent Change June	Lunches July 2018	Lunches July 2019	Percent Change July	Lunches August 2018	Lunches August 2019	Percent Change August
Alabama	1,065,900	1,037,950	-2.6%	667,198	676,792	1.4%	27,240	24,190	-11.2%
Alaska	83,516	93,628	12.1%	64,811	79,884	23.3%	18,419	24,519	33.1%
Arizona	390,330	442,852	13.5%	206,311	251,035	21.7%	5,755	1,658	-71.2%
Arkansas	277,632	285,644	2.9%	270,050	240,697	-10.9%	47,682	28,186	-40.9%
California	1,587,227	1,422,754	-10.4%	2,094,340	2,063,625	-1.5%	361,128	328,624	-9.0%
Colorado	534,731	530,811	-0.7%	366,956	397,097	8.2%	52,849	43,569	-17.6%
Connecticut	65,856	86,067	30.7%	567,589	567,697	0.0%	168,106	151,510	-9.9%
Delaware	96,564	94,829	-1.8%	199,921	220,415	10.3%	90,841	94,790	4.3%
District of Columbia	49,841	43,767	-12.2%	274,370	282,612	3.0%	39,652	40,371	1.8%
Florida	3,872,164	3,400,708	-12.2%	3,531,609	3,562,425	0.9%	241,380	160,528	-33.5%
Georgia	1,393,550	1,304,144	-6.4%	1,193,002	1,149,502	-3.6%	54,530	69,949	28.3%
Hawaii	39,440	34,543	-12.4%	37,014	36,754	-0.7%	1,598	1,395	-12.7%
Idaho	433,895	410,135	-5.5%	362,165	343,214	-5.2%	82,790	83,582	1.0%
Illinois	688,920	630,909	-8.4%	1,505,536	1,568,453	4.2%	422,067	357,332	-15.3%
Indiana	1,018,914	909,891	-10.7%	628,479	607,959	-3.3%	42,196	37,639	-10.8%
Iowa	436,704	410,880	-5.9%	360,121	371,739	3.2%	81,611	97,988	20.1%
Kansas	578,301	588,412	1.7%	335,196	343,213	2.4%	32,124	29,107	-9.4%
Kentucky	881,316	906,884	2.9%	730,237	840,986	15.2%	120,759	114,447	-5.2%
Louisiana	972,099	872,440	-10.3%	477,325	423,094	-11.4%	4,341	3,196	-26.4%
Maine	19,492	31,576	62.0%	312,968	305,038	-2.5%	107,091	111,435	4.1%
Maryland	18,504	36,754	98.6%	1,345,752	1,397,189	3.8%	415,606	346,060	-16.7%
Massachusetts	63,714	97,230	52.6%	964,770	964,040	-0.1%	444,588	395,081	-11.1%
Michigan	445,187	422,905	-5.0%	1,124,786	1,116,812	-0.7%	576,283	501,949	-12.9%
Minnesota	661,534	701,454	6.0%	862,248	931,335	8.0%	401,166	403,169	0.5%
Mississippi	890,125	799,431	-10.2%	464,995	403,702	-13.2%	2,963	693	-76.6%
Missouri	1,812,043	1,761,991	-2.8%	507,372	557,307	9.8%	107,193	100,794	-6.0%
Montana	170,449	162,199	-4.8%	178,589	183,615	2.8%	76,213	73,976	-2.9%
Nebraska	395,607	390,760	-1.2%	160,211	167,745	4.7%	17,015	13,797	-18.9%
Nevada	145,554	141,474	-2.8%	162,596	167,893	3.3%	46,379	47,021	1.4%
New Hampshire	11,417	14,948	30.9%	86,217	90,925	5.5%	58,267	62,258	6.8%
New Jersey	97,005	53,945	-44.4%	1,483,121	1,559,356	5.1%	690,737	784,712	13.6%
New Mexico	588,029	508,179	-13.6%	512,436	454,575	-11.3%	53,332	28,681	-46.2%
New York	400,061	111,540	-72.1%	5,852,069	6,081,662	3.9%	3,490,921	3,366,184	-3.6%
North Carolina	801,429	799,649	-0.2%	1,316,258	1,393,753	5.9%	414,853	372,257	-10.3%
North Dakota	106,258	115,180	8.4%	54,309	64,725	19.2%	12,166	13,679	12.4%
Ohio	1,075,490	1,002,103	-6.8%	1,100,763	1,097,550	-0.3%	319,922	285,091	-10.9%
Oklahoma	552,761	579,555	4.8%	277,534	292,842	5.5%	26,888	43,512	61.8%
Oregon	262,333	236,829	-9.7%	586,462	594,657	1.4%	321,353	288,345	-10.3%
Pennsylvania	606,635	611,832	0.9%	1,296,345	1,289,648	-0.5%	602,353	588,622	-2.3%
Rhode Island	17,011	16,610	-2.4%	176,489	166,534	-5.6%	96,835	83,196	-14.1%
South Carolina	639,643	549,019	-14.2%	665,837	598,726	-10.1%	197,303	165,948	-15.9%
South Dakota	155,609	152,832	-1.8%	127,488	127,893	0.3%	42,879	39,812	-7.2%
Tennessee	1,098,856	1,020,621	-7.1%	717,130	640,470	-10.7%	4,467	5,784	29.5%
Texas	3,226,660	3,205,930	-0.6%	1,790,619	1,759,180	-1.8%	553,211	453,090	-18.1%
Utah	39,402	50,825	29.0%	35,513	44,120	24.2%	14,703	15,361	4.5%
Vermont	31,078	29,402	-5.4%	157,042	170,355	8.5%	48,293	54,703	13.3%
Virginia	459,007	469,779	2.3%	1,131,840	1,145,037	1.2%	326,176	266,318	-18.4%
Washington	216,907	166,915	-23.0%	617,330	679,274	10.0%	300,633	281,810	-6.3%
West Virginia	96,315	120,941	25.6%	201,134	167,169	-16.9%	19,797	23,652	19.5%
Wisconsin	669,727	601,543	-10.2%	812,465	867,665	6.8%	244,349	250,091	2.3%
Wyoming	84,587	92,128	8.9%	76,669	84,309	10.0%	22,768	21,278	-6.5%
US	30,325,329	28,563,327	-5.8%	39,031,587	39,592,294	1.4%	11,951,771	11,180,939	-6.4%

Note: Sponsors that served meals for no more than 10 days in June or August are allowed to claim those lunches in July to reduce paperwork.

¹ The Average Daily Participation (ADP) in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is calculated by dividing the total number of SFSP lunches served in July by the total number of weekdays in July, minus the Independence Day Holiday. July 2019 had 22 days, compared to the 21 days in July 2018. This can result in an increase in the number of meals served, but a decrease in the ADP.

Table 5:**Average Daily Participation (ADP) in Summer Nutrition¹ and Additional ADP and Additional Federal Reimbursement if States Reached FRAC's Goal of 40 Summer Nutrition Participants per 100 Regular School Year National School Lunch Program (NSLP)² Participants**

State	Summer Nutrition ADP, July 2019	Ratio of Summer Nutrition to NSLP ³	Total Summer Nutrition ADP if Summer Nutrition to NSLP Ratio Reached 40:100	Additional Summer Nutrition ADP if Summer Nutrition to NSLP Ratio Reached 40:100	Additional Federal Reimbursement Dollars if Summer Nutrition to NSLP Ratio Reached 40:100 ⁴
Alabama	35,691	10.1	141,531	105,840	\$9,238,253
Alaska	4,160	11.2	14,869	10,709	\$934,755
Arizona	69,099	15.7	176,254	107,155	\$9,353,024
Arkansas	24,577	11.1	88,854	64,277	\$5,610,417
California	398,577	16.5	967,477	568,900	\$49,656,444
Colorado	19,773	9.5	83,447	63,673	\$5,557,726
Connecticut	34,736	19.0	73,211	38,475	\$3,358,250
Delaware	10,673	17.6	24,260	13,587	\$1,185,956
District of Columbia	14,983	37.7	15,910	928	\$80,975
Florida	189,431	13.8	548,402	358,971	\$31,332,826
Georgia	112,495	13.6	331,671	219,175	\$19,130,733
Hawaii	5,230	8.7	24,032	18,801	\$1,641,074
Idaho	16,154	18.9	34,263	18,110	\$1,580,700
Illinois	86,772	11.7	295,707	208,935	\$18,236,885
Indiana	63,377	15.1	168,166	104,789	\$9,146,534
Iowa	18,466	10.4	71,329	52,862	\$4,614,102
Kansas	16,744	9.5	70,453	53,708	\$4,687,926
Kentucky	41,449	10.3	161,027	119,579	\$10,437,417
Louisiana	21,419	5.1	169,156	147,737	\$12,895,242
Maine	14,216	26.5	21,469	7,253	\$633,085
Maryland	65,366	23.1	113,109	47,742	\$4,167,190
Massachusetts	52,392	16.5	126,935	74,542	\$6,506,436
Michigan	60,720	11.1	219,352	158,632	\$13,846,205
Minnesota	48,114	18.4	104,682	56,568	\$4,937,555
Mississippi	20,316	7.3	110,634	90,319	\$7,883,451
Missouri	30,036	9.0	132,896	102,860	\$8,978,163
Montana	8,955	19.9	18,023	9,069	\$791,549
Nebraska	8,761	7.3	48,073	39,312	\$3,431,382
Nevada	13,731	8.0	68,725	54,994	\$4,800,109
New Hampshire	4,848	15.2	12,750	7,902	\$689,717
New Jersey	91,698	22.4	163,901	72,203	\$6,302,212
New Mexico	44,973	27.7	65,060	20,087	\$1,753,263
New York	354,712	27.5	515,313	160,602	\$14,018,113
North Carolina	85,055	13.9	245,162	160,107	\$13,974,933
North Dakota	3,172	10.1	12,509	9,337	\$814,950
Ohio	61,575	10.4	236,177	174,602	\$15,240,104
Oklahoma	14,501	4.9	118,297	103,796	\$9,059,846
Oregon	30,030	16.0	74,877	44,848	\$3,914,534
Pennsylvania	83,734	13.1	255,468	171,734	\$14,989,817
Rhode Island	8,047	16.7	19,230	11,183	\$976,085
South Carolina	53,772	15.9	134,989	81,217	\$7,089,015
South Dakota	7,131	15.8	18,065	10,935	\$954,426
Tennessee	55,011	12.2	180,662	125,651	\$10,967,471
Texas	182,871	7.3	999,075	816,204	\$71,242,324
Utah	26,870	18.2	59,067	32,197	\$2,810,280
Vermont	7,928	33.5	9,480	1,552	\$135,498
Virginia	60,598	14.3	169,456	108,858	\$9,501,668
Washington	35,688	10.9	130,931	95,243	\$8,313,279
West Virginia	8,923	6.6	53,922	44,998	\$3,927,675
Wisconsin	42,470	15.5	109,337	66,867	\$5,836,484
Wyoming	4,161	18.7	8,910	4,749	\$414,534
US	2,774,183	13.8	8,016,557	5,242,374	\$457,580,588

¹ Summer Nutrition includes the Summer Food Service Program and free and reduced-price National School Lunch Program during the summer, including the Seamless Summer Option.

² School Year National School Lunch Program numbers reflect free and reduced-price lunch participation in regular school year 2018–2019.

³ Ratio of Summer Nutrition to National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is the number of children in Summer Nutrition per 100 in NSLP.

⁴ Additional federal reimbursement dollars were calculated assuming that the state's sponsors were reimbursed for each child each weekday only for lunch (not also breakfast or a snack), at the lowest rate for a Summer Food Service Program lunch (\$3.9675 per lunch), and were served 22 days in July 2019.



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