



Large School District Report

Operating School Nutrition Programs During the Pandemic

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Acknowledgments

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About FRAC

The Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) improves the nutrition, health, and well-being of people struggling against poverty-related hunger in the United States through advocacy, partnerships, and by advancing bold and equitable policy solutions. For more information about FRAC, or to [sign up](#) for FRAC's e-newsletters, go to www.frac.org.

Authors

This report was written by FRAC's Alexis Bylander, Crystal FitzSimons, and Grace O'Connor. The findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of FRAC alone.

FRAC sincerely thanks the school nutrition staff who completed our annual large district school meals survey, making this report possible and providing valuable insight into school meal operations during the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 school years.

Photo credits: FRAC is grateful to Cobb County School District, Duval County Public School District, Fulton County School District, and Pittsburg Unified School District for submitting photos for use in this report.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued during the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 school years, school meals remained a support to students, providing them nutritious food whether they were attending school in person or virtually, and have been a critical component of our nation’s response to the pandemic.

To support access to the federal child nutrition programs during the pandemic, Congress gave the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) the authority to issue nationwide waivers to provide schools, local government agencies, and private nonprofits the flexibility needed to operate the programs during the pandemic. USDA has continued to use this authority to overcome the unique challenges created by the pandemic, such as allowing schools to offer meals to all students at no charge during in-person, virtual, or hybrid learning, student quarantine periods, and school closures, and providing additional funding to schools to help cover the increased pandemic-related costs.

Even with most students returning to the classroom for the 2021–2022 school year, schools continued to face a variety of challenges, including supply chain disruptions, labor

shortages, low participation in school meal programs, serving meals safely, and rising food prices. Waivers have been critical this school year and are needed through the 2022–2023 school year to support school nutrition as they recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

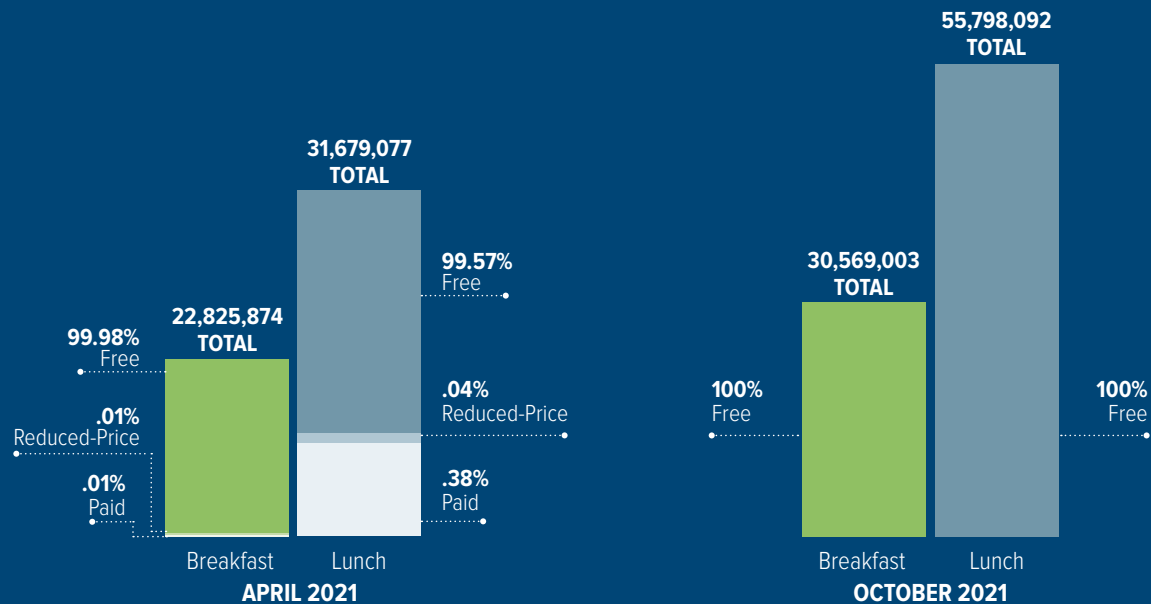
School nutrition staff have served as frontline workers during the pandemic, supporting students’ access to healthy meals and playing a critical role in combating childhood hunger. They developed creative strategies for dealing with supply chain issues, and new serving models to accommodate remote learning and social distancing.

There have been lessons learned from school meal operations during the pandemic and longstanding best practices that can and should be used to increase access and participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP). This report highlights the role that the waivers have played in supporting school nutrition operations and access to school meals, the importance of extending the waivers through the 2022–2023 school year, and the path forward to ensure all children have access to the nutritious school meals they need to learn and thrive.



KEY FINDINGS

- ▶ The **62 districts** highlighted in this report included a total of **9,188 schools** and **5,334,085 students**.
- ▶ In **April 2021**, a total of **22,825,874 breakfasts** were served in the 62 districts surveyed.
 - ▶ **22,821,699** of the breakfasts (99.98%) were served at the **free** rate.
 - ▶ **1,243** of the breakfasts (0.01%) were served at the **reduced-price** rate.
 - ▶ **2,932** of the breakfasts (0.01%) were served at the **paid** rate.
- ▶ In **April 2021**, a total of **31,679,077 lunches** were served in the 62 districts surveyed.
 - ▶ **31,543,951** of the lunches (99.57%) were served at the **free** rate.
 - ▶ **13,763** of the lunches (0.04%) were served at the **reduced-price** rate.
 - ▶ **121,363** of the lunches (0.38%) were served at the **paid** rate.
- ▶ In **October 2021**, **50** of the 62 districts (81%) were serving **breakfast** at all of their schools, and **54** of the 62 districts (87%) were serving **lunch** at all of their schools.
- ▶ In **October 2021**, a total of **30,569,003 breakfasts** and **55,798,092 lunches** were served in the 62 districts surveyed. All of them were served at the free rate through the Seamless Summer Option.
- ▶ Average daily participation in **breakfast increased** by **over 518,000** across all surveyed districts from **1 million children in April 2021** to **1.5 million in October 2021**. Average daily participation in **lunch increased** by **approximately 1.4 million** from **1.4 million in April 2021** to **2.8 million in October 2021**.
- ▶ Broken down by school districts, **52** districts saw an **increase in breakfast** participation from April 2021 to October 2021, and **61** districts saw an **increase in lunch** participation from April 2021 to October 2021.
- ▶ The **combined reach of breakfast** among the 62 districts **trailed lunch** in **both April 2021 and October 2021**.

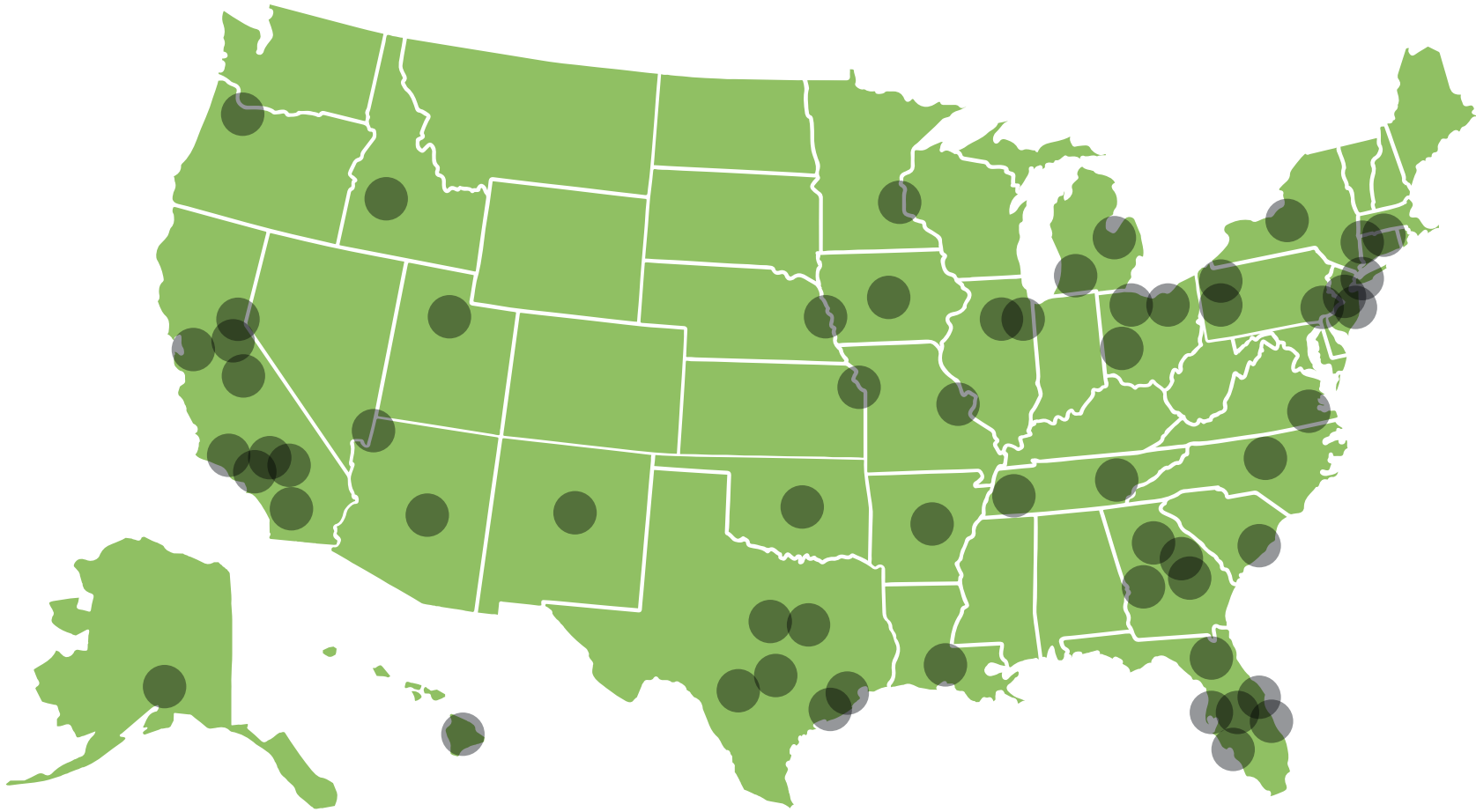




Survey Sample

The Food Research & Action Center surveyed large school districts to learn more about their school meals programs in April 2021 and October 2021, providing insights into participation and program operations during the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 school years. For this report, a large district was defined as one with more than

8,000 students. Sixty-two school districts in 31 states completed surveys from December 2021–February 2022. The size of the school districts ranged from 8,204 students in San Marcos Consolidated ISD (Texas) to 1,003,199 students in New York City Department of Education (New York).



The Ongoing Pandemic Continued to Pose Challenges for School Meal Operations

Schools faced a variety of challenges as the pandemic continued to impact school nutrition operations into the 2021–2022 school year. FRAC’s survey asked school nutrition staff if they encountered challenges with supply chain disruptions, labor shortages, low participation in meal programs, serving meals safely, or rising food prices. The table below shows their responses. Additional challenges school districts mentioned included menu fatigue, rising labor costs, social distancing during meal service, and obtaining supplies such as containers, trays, and utensils.

TABLE: Operational Challenges Identified by School Nutrition Staff During the 2021–2022 School Year



61 of the districts surveyed (98%) identified **SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS** as a challenge.



59 of the districts surveyed (95%) identified **LABOR SHORTAGES** as a challenge.



55 of the districts surveyed (89%) identified **RISING FOOD PRICES** as a challenge.



25 of the districts surveyed (40%) identified **LOW PARTICIPATION** in meal programs as a challenge.



14 of the districts surveyed (23%) identified **SERVING MEALS SAFELY** as a challenge.

Child Nutrition Programs Used to Serve Breakfast and Lunch

During the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 school years, school districts had the option to offer breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students through the child nutrition waivers. In April 2021, 60 of the surveyed districts offered meals at no charge to all students, with 30 operating the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and 30 operating the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). One district, the Hawai’i Department of Education, used NSLP and SSO to serve meals in April 2021. In October 2021, all 62 school districts surveyed used SSO to offer meals to all students at no charge.¹

¹ The waiver to operate SFSP was not made available to schools or other sponsors during the 2021–2022 school year.



Offering Free School Meals to All Students

School nutrition staff reported numerous benefits to offering meals to all students at no charge through the nationwide waivers that were available during the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 school years.

TABLE: Reported Benefits of Serving Free Meals to All Students



59 districts (95%) reported it **REDUCES CHILD HUNGER**.



55 districts (89%) reported it makes it **EASIER FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS**.



53 districts (85%) reported it **ELIMINATES ANY STIGMA** associated with school meals.



52 districts (84%) reported it **EASES ADMINISTRATIVE WORK**.



51 districts (82%) reported it **SUPPORTS ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**.



50 districts (81%) reported it **ELIMINATES SCHOOL MEAL DEBT**.



48 districts (77%) reported it **INCREASES NUMBER OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES AND MILK** children consume.



38 districts (61%) reported it **IMPROVES STUDENT BEHAVIOR**.



36 districts (58%) reported it **ADVANCES RACIAL EQUITY**.

Offering free meals to all students during the pandemic has effectively served as a trial run for a nationwide healthy school meals for all policy.

FRAC's resource, [The Case for Healthy School Meals for All](#), discusses in detail why free meals for all students should remain the new normal for schools across the country. California and Maine have passed state legislation to permanently establish healthy school meals at no cost to families, and many other states are considering it.



Healthy School Meals for All Through State Legislation



In 2021, California and Maine became the first states to enact legislation to offer free school breakfast and lunch to all of their students. California's [legislation](#), led by Speaker Nancy Skinner and supported by Superintendent Tony Thurmond, was made possible through a state budget surplus. Maine's [legislation](#), led by Senate President Troy Jackson and House Speaker Ryan Fecteau, established a Meals for Students Fund and seeded the fund with \$10 million. Additional funding to successfully implement school meals for all Maine students was later secured. [The California Association of Food Banks](#) and the [School Meals for All Coalition](#) in California and [Full Plates Full Potential](#) in Maine worked with a variety of partners and stakeholders to build support and successfully enact the legislation.



For more information about FRAC's work around free healthy school meals for all, visit FRAC's [Healthy School Meals for All webpage](#).

Learning Models During April and October 2021

In response to the pandemic, school districts utilized a variety of learning models during the 2020–2021 school year, including in-person, virtual, and hybrid (a combination of in-person and virtual). The majority of school districts reported using either a virtual or hybrid model in April 2021. Most districts reported that all or nearly all students were back in person in October 2021.

Nationwide Waivers

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress gave USDA the authority to grant nationwide child nutrition waivers, allowing school nutrition programs to adapt as necessary to changes such as school closures, virtual learning, and supply chain shortages.

The waivers remained available through the 2021–2022 school years. Every school district included in this report was using at least one waiver in April 2021 and October 2021. Below is a list of the waivers, followed by a table that describes the extent to which the surveyed districts used the waivers.



Non-Congregate Feeding

allows families to take meals home to eat by waiving the requirement that children eat the meal at the site.



Meal Times

allows sites to provide families multiple meals—up to breakfast, lunch, supper, and a snack for one day—and more than one day's worth of meals at a time by waiving requirements for the timing of the meal service.



Meal Pattern

allows flexibility in meeting the meal patterns.



Parent/Guardian Pickup

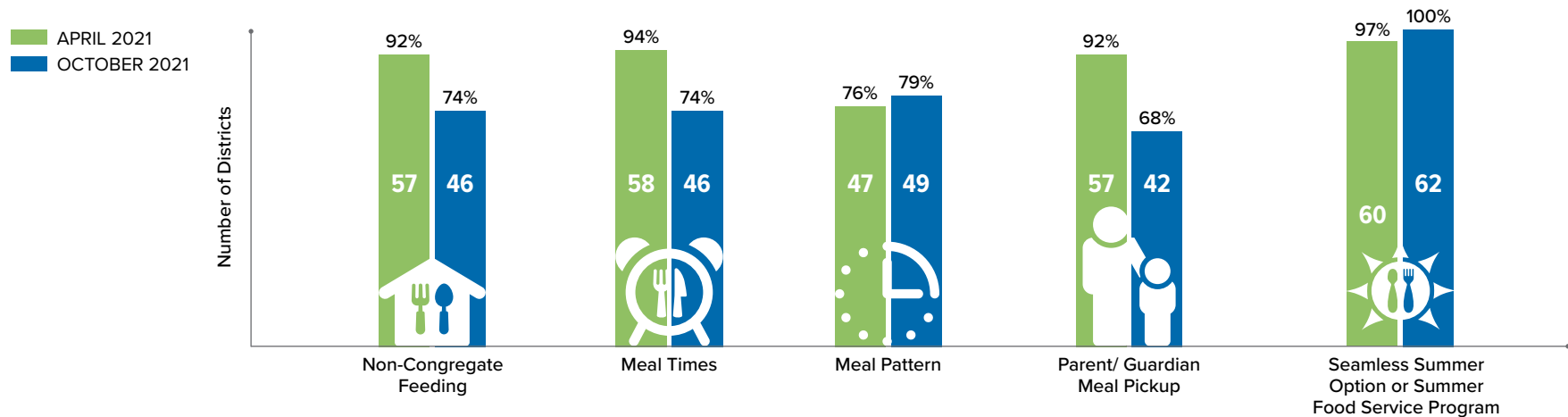
allows parents and guardians to pick up meals for the children in the household by waiving the requirement that the child be present.



Seamless Summer Option and Summer Food Service Program²

allows schools to serve meals at no charge through the Summer Nutrition Programs instead of operating the School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program under the normal rules for the regular school year. In school year 2021–2022, USDA issued a waiver that allowed schools to serve meals through the Seamless Summer Option, but receive the higher SFSP reimbursement rates.³

TABLE: Number of Districts Using Each Type of Waiver, April 2021 and October 2021



² The total number of districts using the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) waiver includes any district that reported serving meals through either SSO or SFSP in the applicable month.

³ The waiver to operate SFSP was not made available to schools or other sponsors during the 2021–2022 school year.

School District Perspectives on USDA Nationwide Waivers

The nationwide waivers issued by USDA gave schools the flexibility they needed to respond to the changing circumstances and uncertainty the pandemic caused. School districts noted that the waivers allowed them to offer free meals to all students, provide meals to siblings, continue with operations when there were product shortages or items were delayed or

canceled, made things easier for parents, reduced stigma, and alleviated stress for school nutrition staff. Norfolk Public Schools summarized it by noting that the “flexibilities allowed schools to adapt to unprecedented, ever-changing, unpredictable conditions and situations,” and Floyd County Schools stated, “the waivers have given some much-needed relief.”

“These waivers have helped Chicago Public Schools (CPS) support our students’ nutritional needs without interruption. During times of food uncertainty, families could rely on CPS to provide meals daily. These waivers also allowed CPS to continue to seek reimbursement for all meals provided, allowing our operation to continue.”

— **Chicago Public Schools**

“The waivers were beneficial as they eased the administrative burdens and allowed our department and our staff to focus on increasing access to quality food for all children.”

— **Minneapolis Public Schools**

“The waivers allowed children to continue to participate in school meals when not on campus. The flexibility from the waivers ensured that families had easy access to healthy foods. Continuing the meal program allowed employees to continue working, easing financial burdens on families.”

— **Dallas Independent School District**

“The meal pattern waiver has been immensely helpful this year as we navigate the current supply chain issues.”

— **Cobb County School District**

“All waivers have eased administrative burdens and allowed us to focus on getting meals to students.”

— **Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District**

“Waivers allowed us to operate a grab and go meal service at each school that was safe and accessible for parents and students.”

— **Salt Lake City School District**

“The USDA waivers have been invaluable to our district. The ability to feed all students at no charge is a blessing to families, and it has greatly helped reduce the stigma of free lunch. These waivers have allowed us to navigate supply chain issues and labor shortages in a way that helps us continue to do what we’re here to do—feed students.”

— **Knox County Schools**

“[The waivers] helped make it possible to serve meals to our students while keeping them, our community, and our staff safe.”

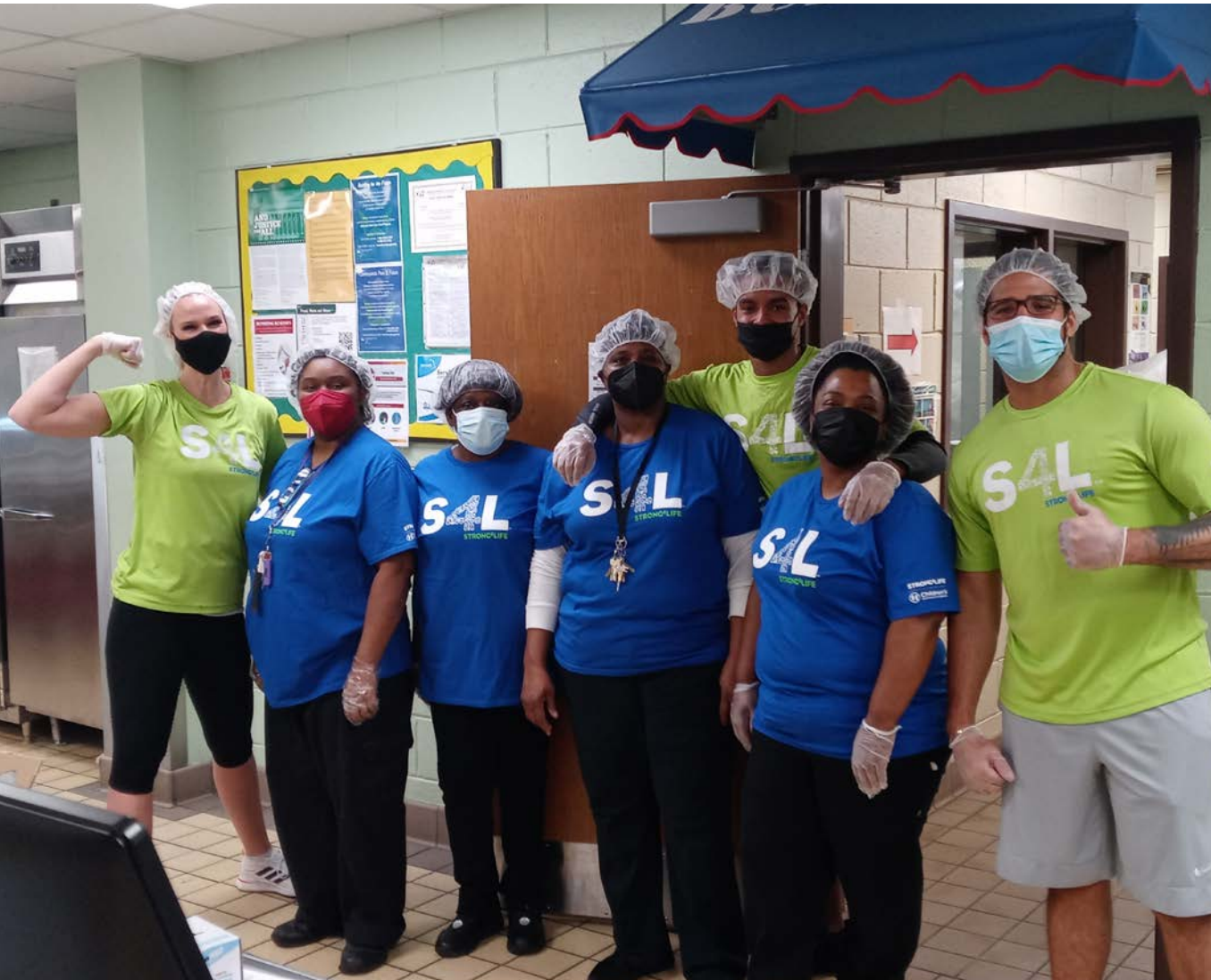
— **Fresno Unified School District**

“We found out quickly that it was difficult for parents to get to the meal sites every day while remote learning was happening. When we moved to bulk curbside meals we aligned with the district’s 100% remote day so parents could pick up a whole week’s worth of meals at one time. This also helped limit exposure for staff.”

— **Newburgh Enlarged City School District**

Creative Strategies for Serving Meals During the Pandemic

School nutrition staff were frontline workers during the pandemic and ensured students had continuous access to healthy meals. They implemented a variety of creative strategies to overcome the uncertainty and changing variables the pandemic created. Through our large district survey, school nutrition staff shared how they changed their menus, serving models, and many other aspects of school meal operations to adapt to the challenging and evolving environment.



“We partnered with one of our vendors to deliver meals to homes for families that requested delivery services.”

— **Chicago Public Schools**

“We use[d] monthly competitions to engage staff and keep them motivated through [the] pandemic to shine.”

— **Cleveland Metropolitan School District**

“[We] provide[d] bulk items and create[d] a recipe for the families to make their own fresh meals at home with the items provided.”

— **San Bernardino City Unified School District**

“During virtual-only learning periods, a hot meal (supper) for the current day, plus cold meals for the next day (breakfast, lunch, and snack) were distributed at the same time, at the end of the instructional day.”

— **Norfolk Public Schools**

“Grab-n-go meals available at the serving line for quick service, then return to classroom.”

— **Pinellas County Schools**

Policy Recommendations

In order to ensure access to school meals and to support school districts as they recover from the strain that the pandemic has placed on them over the last two years, FRAC advocates for the following policy recommendations:

► **Make free school meals available to all students:**

Prior to the pandemic, 1 in 3 schools participating in the School Nutrition Programs was offering breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students through the Community Eligibility Provision. Since March 2020, all schools have been given the opportunity to do this through the Seamless Summer Option and Summer Food Service Program. Offering school breakfast and lunch to all students at no charge—also known as Healthy School Meals for All—helps ensure that all children have the nutrition they need to grow and thrive, and helps overcome the numerous participation barriers, such as the tiered eligibility system that limits access for too many children whose families are struggling to make ends meet, and the stigma associated with participating in school meals. It also helps support school nutrition finances by increasing participation, reducing administrative work, and eliminating school meals debt. While the Community Eligibility Provision remains an important opportunity for high-poverty schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students, moving forward, bold federal administrative and legislative actions are needed to allow all schools to offer meals to every student at no charge. Healthy School Meals for All can be accomplished by enacting legislation, such as the Universal School Meals Program Act of 2021. A more modest approach is to expand community eligibility so that additional schools are able to offer meals at no charge to all students.

► **Extend USDA nationwide waiver authority:**

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress gave USDA the authority to issue nationwide child nutrition waivers to address access and operational challenges created by the pandemic.



Breakfast After the Bell: A Proven Strategy to Increase Participation

When students are attending school in person, implementing a breakfast after the bell service model has the potential to greatly increase participation and reduce any stigma associated with eating breakfast at school. There are three primary options for serving breakfast after the bell:

► **Breakfast in the Classroom:** Meals are delivered to and eaten in the classroom at the start of the school day.

► **“Grab and Go”:** Children (particularly older students) can quickly grab their breakfast from carts or kiosks in the hallway or the cafeteria line to eat in their classroom or in common areas.

► **Second Chance Breakfast:** Students are offered a second chance to eat breakfast after the school day starts. Many middle and high school students are not hungry first thing in the morning but are ready to eat breakfast after their first class of the day, helping them to focus on their classes until lunch time.



Without these waivers, the child nutrition programs would not have been able to adequately respond to the fallout from COVID-19. The authority to provide nationwide waivers that increase program costs in response to the pandemic has only been extended to June 30, 2022. Without Congressional action, waivers cannot be provided beyond the 2021–2022 school year. The loss of the waivers means that this summer SFSP and SSO sponsors will be forced to stop serving meals at some sites or shut down all together, limiting children’s access to healthy summer meals. The June 30 expiration also means that USDA will no longer have the ability to respond to supply chain, operational, and access challenges that have been driven by the pandemic, and schools will no longer be able to offer free meals to all students using the SSO waiver

when school resumes. Congress should further extend USDA’s nationwide waiver authority through school year 2022–2023 to ensure USDA has continued flexibility to respond to the ongoing and evolving impacts of the pandemic as well as its aftermath.

- ▶ **Expand direct certification** to ensure that more children in need of free meals are automatically linked to them. For example, all states should be allowed to directly certify low-income children who participate in Medicaid for free school meals.
- ▶ **Support breakfast after the bell models** to increase school breakfast participation, which reaches far fewer children than school lunch.

Beyond Nationwide Waivers: Options for Serving Meals at No Cost to Families

If Congress fails to extend the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s authority to issue nationwide waivers for the 2022–2023 school year, eligible schools can use these options to offer free meals to all students:

- ▶ **Community Eligibility Provision:** Community eligibility schools are high-poverty schools that offer free breakfast and lunch to all students and do not have to collect, process, or verify school meal applications, or keep track of meals by fee category, resulting in significant administrative savings and increased participation. Find out what schools in your state or community are participating or are eligible for the Community Eligibility Provision with the Food Research & Action Center’s [database](#).
- ▶ **Provision 2:** Schools using Provision 2 (a provision of the National School Lunch Act) do not need to collect, process, or verify school meal applications or keep track of meals by fee category for at least three out of every four years.

Schools collect school meal applications and count and claim meals by fee category during year one of the multiyear cycle, called the “base year.” Those data then determine the federal reimbursement and are used for future years in the cycle. Provision 2 schools have the option to serve only breakfast and lunch, or both breakfast and lunch to all students at no charge, and use economies of scale from increased participation and significant administrative savings to offset the cost of offering free meals to all students.

- ▶ **Nonpricing:** No fees are collected from students while schools continue to receive federal reimbursements for the breakfasts served under the three-tier federal fee categories (free, reduced-price, and paid).⁴

⁴ School lunch equity requires the fee that a school district charges to be equal to the free federal lunch reimbursement rate. If not, the district is required to gradually increase its lunch fees each year until it reaches equity or must cover the difference using funds outside of the school nutrition account.



During December 2021–February 2022, the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) distributed an electronic survey to 119 large school districts nationwide. Sixty-two districts completed the survey, and the findings in this report are based on the information provided in the surveys. For this report, a large district was defined as one with more than 8,000 students. The survey was composed primarily of multiple-choice questions and asked each school district about their breakfast and lunch participation and practices.

The survey collected School Breakfast Program (SBP), National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Seamless Summer Option (SSO), and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) data for April 2021; and SBP, NSLP, and SSO data for October 2021. Breakfast and lunch participation in SSO and SFSP is included in the free participation data for SBP and NSLP. School districts were given the opportunity to review the tables included in this report and provide updated information prior to publication.

The goals of this report include:



- **COLLECT** information on large district school nutrition operations during the 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 school years as the COVID-19 pandemic continued and impacted School Nutrition Programs.



- **DETERMINE** the extent to which the ongoing pandemic impacted school meal operations.



- **UNDERSTAND** the extent to which the surveyed districts used the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s nationwide child nutrition waivers that have been made available during the pandemic, and the impact those waivers had on districts.



- **DISCOVER** the extent to which the surveyed districts are implementing promising practices to maintain and increase participation, such as breakfast after the bell and offering meals at no charge to all students, as the pandemic continues.

Participation in the school meals program was determined by self-reported numbers provided by each district as part of the survey.

Table 6: To determine the average daily participation in breakfast and lunch for April 2021 and October 2021, the total number of meals served in each month was divided by the total number of serving days and rounded to the nearest whole number. We used the number of serving days for breakfast if districts did not provide the number of serving days for lunch.

Table 1: Student Enrollment and Breakfast and Lunch Service, October 2021

School District	State	Total Student Enrollment	Number of Schools in District	Number of Schools in District Serving Breakfast	Percentage of Schools in District Serving Breakfast ¹	Number of Schools in District Serving Lunch	Percentage of Schools in District Serving Lunch ²
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	73,000	138	138	100%	138	100%
Anchorage School District	AK	43,606	113	63	56%	81	72%
Bibb County School District	GA	20,698	36	36	100%	36	100%
Boise School District	ID	23,526	47	47	100%	46	98%
Broward County Public Schools	FL	205,952	228	227	100%	228	100%
Charleston County School District	SC	49,500	88	88	100%	88	100%
Chicago Public Schools	IL	302,680	574	574	100%	574	100%
Cincinnati Public Schools	OH	35,645	64	64	100%	64	100%
Clark County School District	NV	303,940	350	349	100%	349	100%
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	OH	35,417	85	85	100%	85	100%
Cobb County School District	GA	107,776	112	112	100%	112	100%
Compton Unified School District	CA	18,477	30	30	100%	30	100%
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	TX	117,404	90	89	99%	89	99%
Dallas Independent School District	TX	143,792	229	229	100%	229	100%
Des Moines Public Schools	IA	31,906	61	61	100%	61	100%
Detroit Public Schools Community District	MI	48,998	106	106	100%	106	100%
Duval County Public Schools	FL	103,535	152	152	100%	152	100%
Elizabeth Public Schools	NJ	27,147	40	40	100%	40	100%
Erie City School District	PA	10,102	22	22	100%	22	100%
Ferguson-Florissant School District	MO	9,300	23	23	100%	23	100%
Floyd County Schools	GA	8,993	17	17	100%	17	100%
Fresno Unified School District	CA	71,806	101	101	100%	101	100%
Fulton County Schools	GA	85,240	97	97	100%	97	100%
Hawai'i Department of Education	HI	160,050	257	257	100%	257	100%
Houston County School District	GA	30,243	38	38	100%	38	100%
Irving Independent School District	TX	33,000	36	36	100%	36	100%
Kalamazoo Public Schools	MI	13,614	31	31	100%	31	100%
Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	KS	22,033	46	46	100%	46	100%
Knox County Schools	TN	60,748	89	89	100%	89	100%
Little Rock School District	AR	22,054	41	41	100%	41	100%

¹ 3 districts (Broward County Public Schools, Clark County School District, and School District of Palm Beach County) are listed as having 100% of their schools serving breakfast due to rounding. They are not included in the total on page 3.

² 1 district (Clark County School District) is listed as having 100% of their schools serving lunch due to rounding. They are not included in the total on page 3.

Table 1: Student Enrollment and Breakfast and Lunch Service, October 2021 (continued)

School District	State	Total Student Enrollment	Number of Schools in District	Number of Schools in District Serving Breakfast	Percentage of Schools in District Serving Breakfast ¹	Number of Schools in District Serving Lunch	Percentage of Schools in District Serving Lunch ²
Livingston Parish Public Schools	LA	26,928	43	42	98%	42	98%
Los Angeles Unified School District	CA	463,491	684	684	100%	684	100%
Mesa Public Schools	AZ	58,561	78	76	97%	78	100%
Minneapolis Public Schools	MN	30,096	81	70	86%	70	86%
New York City Department of Education ³	NY	1,003,199	2,394	2,315	97%	2,326	97%
Newark School District	NJ	37,331	68	68	100%	68	100%
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	NY	11,064	14	14	100%	14	100%
Norfolk Public Schools	VA	27,745	50	50	100%	50	100%
Oakland Unified School District	CA	36,201	129	129	100%	129	100%
Oklahoma City Public Schools	OK	32,294	62	62	100%	62	100%
Omaha Public Schools	NE	51,674	96	96	100%	96	100%
Pinellas County Schools	FL	100,106	148	147	99%	148	100%
Pittsburg Unified School District	CA	10,600	13	13	100%	13	100%
Pittsburgh Public Schools	PA	20,313	56	56	100%	56	100%
Polk County Public Schools	FL	93,387	134	134	100%	134	100%
Portland Public Schools	OR	44,474	92	92	100%	92	100%
Riverside Unified School District	CA	40,346	47	47	100%	47	100%
Salt Lake City School District	UT	20,477	37	37	100%	37	100%
San Antonio Independent School District	TX	44,779	95	95	100%	95	100%
San Bernardino City Unified School District	CA	47,752	84	84	100%	83	99%
San Diego Unified School District	CA	103,777	201	201	100%	201	100%
San Francisco Unified School District	CA	50,307	134	132	99%	134	100%
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	TX	8,204	11	11	100%	11	100%
School District of Lee County	FL	83,768	85	85	100%	85	100%
School District of Palm Beach County	FL	174,878	206	205	100%	206	100%
School District of Philadelphia	PA	118,971	228	228	100%	228	100%
School District U-46 (Elgin)	IL	37,856	57	57	100%	57	100%
Shelby County Schools	TN	114,070	203	203	100%	203	100%
Syracuse City School District	NY	20,937	40	40	100%	40	100%
Toledo Public Schools	OH	21,325	53	53	100%	53	100%
Wake County Public School System	NC	159,726	193	191	99%	193	100%
Waterbury Public Schools	CT	19,266	31	31	100%	31	100%

¹ 3 districts (Broward County Public Schools, Clark County School District, and School District of Palm Beach County) are listed as having 100% of their schools serving breakfast due to rounding. They are not included in the total on page 3.

² 1 district (Clark County School District) is listed as having 100% of their schools serving lunch due to rounding. They are not included in the total on page 3.

³ Less than 1% of New York City Department of Education students attend a school that does not serve both breakfast and lunch.

Table 2: Operational Challenges During the 2021–2022 School Year

School District	State	Supply Chain Disruptions	Labor Shortages	Low Participation in Meal Programs	Serving Meals Safely	Rising Food Prices
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	X	X	–	–	–
Anchorage School District	AK	X	X	–	–	X
Bibb County School District	GA	X	X	X	–	X
Boise School District	ID	X	X	–	–	–
Broward County Public Schools	FL	X	X	X	–	X
Charleston County School District	SC	X	–	–	–	X
Chicago Public Schools	IL	X	X	X	–	X
Cincinnati Public Schools	OH	X	X	–	–	X
Clark County School District	NV	X	X	X	X	X
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	OH	X	X	X	X	X
Cobb County School District	GA	X	X	–	–	X
Compton Unified School District	CA	X	X	–	–	X
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	TX	X	X	–	–	X
Dallas Independent School District	TX	X	X	–	–	X
Des Moines Public Schools	IA	X	X	–	–	–
Detroit Public Schools Community District	MI	X	X	X	X	X
Duval County Public Schools	FL	X	X	X	–	X
Elizabeth Public Schools	NJ	X	–	–	–	–
Erie City School District	PA	X	X	X	–	X
Ferguson-Florissant School District	MO	X	X	X	X	X
Floyd County Schools	GA	X	X	–	–	X
Fresno Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	–	X
Fulton County Schools	GA	X	X	–	–	X
Hawai'i Department of Education	HI	X	X	–	–	X
Houston County School District	GA	X	X	–	–	X
Irving Independent School District	TX	X	X	–	–	X
Kalamazoo Public Schools	MI	X	X	X	–	X
Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	KS	X	X	–	–	X
Knox County Schools	TN	X	X	–	–	X
Little Rock School District	AR	X	X	–	X	X
Livingston Parish Public Schools	LA	X	X	–	–	–

Table 2: Operational Challenges During the 2021–2022 School Year (continued)

School District	State	Supply Chain Disruptions	Labor Shortages	Low Participation in Meal Programs	Serving Meals Safely	Rising Food Prices
Los Angeles Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	X
Mesa Public Schools	AZ	X	X	–	–	–
Minneapolis Public Schools	MN	–	X	–	–	–
New York City Department of Education	NY	X	X	–	–	X
Newark School District	NJ	X	X	X	X	X
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	NY	X	X	–	–	X
Norfolk Public Schools	VA	X	X	–	X	X
Oakland Unified School District	CA	X	X	–	–	X
Oklahoma City Public Schools	OK	X	X	X	–	X
Omaha Public Schools	NE	X	X	–	–	X
Pinellas County Schools	FL	X	X	–	–	X
Pittsburg Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	–	X
Pittsburgh Public Schools	PA	X	X	X	X	X
Polk County Public Schools	FL	X	X	–	–	X
Portland Public Schools	OR	X	X	–	–	X
Riverside Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	X
Salt Lake City School District	UT	X	X	–	–	X
San Antonio Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	–	X
San Bernardino City Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	–	X
San Diego Unified School District	CA	X	X	–	–	X
San Francisco Unified School District	CA	X	X	–	–	X
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	TX	X	–	–	X	X
School District of Lee County	FL	X	X	–	–	X
School District of Palm Beach County	FL	X	X	–	–	X
School District of Philadelphia	PA	X	X	X	–	X
School District U-46 (Elgin)	IL	X	X	X	X	X
Shelby County Schools	TN	X	X	X	–	X
Syracuse City School District	NY	X	X	X	X	X
Toledo Public Schools	OH	X	X	X	X	X
Wake County Public School System	NC	X	X	–	–	X
Waterbury Public Schools	CT	X	X	X	–	X
Number of districts who experienced each challenge		61	59	25	14	55
Percent of districts who experienced each challenge		98%	95%	40%	23%	89%

Table 3: School Nutrition Programs Utilized, April 2021 and October 2021

School District	State	Federal Nutrition Program(s) Used to Serve Breakfast and Lunch, April 2021			Federal Nutrition Program(s) Used to Serve Breakfast and Lunch, Oct. 2021
		NSLP/SBP	SSO	SFSP	SSO
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	–	SSO	–	SSO
Anchorage School District	AK	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Bibb County School District	GA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Boise School District	ID	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Broward County Public Schools	FL	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Charleston County School District	SC	–	SSO	–	SSO
Chicago Public Schools	IL	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Cincinnati Public Schools	OH	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Clark County School District	NV	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	OH	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Cobb County School District	GA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Compton Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	TX	–	SSO	–	SSO
Dallas Independent School District	TX	–	SSO	–	SSO
Des Moines Public Schools	IA	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Detroit Public Schools Community District	MI	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Duval County Public Schools	FL	–	SSO	–	SSO
Elizabeth Public Schools	NJ	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Erie City School District	PA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Ferguson-Florissant School District	MO	–	SSO	–	SSO
Floyd County Schools	GA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Fresno Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Fulton County Schools	GA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Hawai'i Department of Education	HI	NSLP/SBP	SSO	–	SSO
Houston County School District	GA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Irving Independent School District	TX	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Kalamazoo Public Schools	MI	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	KS	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Knox County Schools	TN	–	SSO	–	SSO
Little Rock School District	AR	NSLP/SBP	–	–	SSO
Livingston Parish Public Schools	LA	–	–	SFSP	SSO

Table 3: School Nutrition Programs Utilized, April 2021 and October 2021 (continued)

School District	State	Federal Nutrition Program(s) Used to Serve Breakfast and Lunch, April 2021			Federal Nutrition Program(s) Used to Serve Breakfast and Lunch, Oct. 2021
		NSLP/SBP	SSO	SFSP	SSO
Los Angeles Unified School District	CA	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Mesa Public Schools	AZ	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Minneapolis Public Schools	MN	–	–	SFSP	SSO
New York City Department of Education	NY	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Newark School District	NJ	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	NY	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Norfolk Public Schools	VA	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Oakland Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Oklahoma City Public Schools	OK	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Omaha Public Schools	NE	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Pinellas County Schools	FL	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Pittsburg Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Pittsburgh Public Schools	PA	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Polk County Public Schools	FL	–	SSO	–	SSO
Portland Public Schools	OR	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Riverside Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
Salt Lake City School District	UT	–	SSO	–	SSO
San Antonio Independent School District	TX	NSLP/SBP	–	–	SSO
San Bernardino City Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
San Diego Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
San Francisco Unified School District	CA	–	SSO	–	SSO
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	TX	–	SSO	–	SSO
School District of Lee County	FL	–	–	SFSP	SSO
School District of Palm Beach County	FL	–	SSO	–	SSO
School District of Philadelphia	PA	–	SSO	–	SSO
School District U-46 (Elgin)	IL	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Shelby County Schools	TN	–	SSO	–	SSO
Syracuse City School District	NY	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Toledo Public Schools	OH	–	SSO	–	SSO
Wake County Public School System	NC	–	–	SFSP	SSO
Waterbury Public Schools	CT	–	SSO	–	SSO
Number of districts who utilized each program		3	30	30	62
Percent of districts who utilized each program		5%	48%	48%	100%

Table 4: Waiver Take-Up by District, April 2021 and October 2021

School District	State	USDA Child Nutrition Waivers Used by School Districts, April 2021						USDA Child Nutrition Waivers Used by School Districts, October 2021				
		Meal Times Waiver	Meal Pattern Waiver	Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver	Parent/Guardian Meal Pick-Up Waiver	SSO ¹	SFSP ²	Meal Times Waiver	Meal Pattern Waiver	Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver	Parent/Guardian Meal Pick-Up Waiver	SSO ³
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	–	X	X	X	SSO
Anchorage School District	AK	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	–	X	–	–	SSO
Bibb County School District	GA	X	X	X	–	SSO	–	–	X	X	–	SSO
Boise School District	ID	–	–	–	–	–	SFSP	–	–	–	–	SSO
Broward County Public Schools	FL	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	–	–	SSO
Charleston County School District	SC	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Chicago Public Schools	IL	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	–	X	X	SSO
Cincinnati Public Schools	OH	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	–	X	X	X	SSO
Clark County School District	NV	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	–	X	X	SSO
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	OH	–	–	–	X	–	SFSP	X	X	–	–	SSO
Cobb County School District	GA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Compton Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	–	–	SSO
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	–	X	X	SSO
Dallas Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Des Moines Public Schools	IA	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Detroit Public Schools Community District	MI	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Duval County Public Schools	FL	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Elizabeth Public Schools	NJ	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	–	–	X	–	SSO
Erie City School District	PA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Ferguson-Florissant School District	MO	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Floyd County Schools	GA	X	X	X	–	SSO	–	–	X	–	–	SSO
Fresno Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Fulton County Schools	GA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Hawai'i Department of Education	HI	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	–	–	X	X	SSO
Houston County School District	GA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Irving Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	–	–	–	SSO
Kalamazoo Public Schools	MI	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	KS	–	X	X	X	–	SFSP	–	X	–	–	SSO
Knox County Schools	TN	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Little Rock School District	AR	X	X	X	X	–	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Livingston Parish Public Schools	LA	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	–	SSO
Los Angeles Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO

1 School districts that participated in the SSO waiver were able to offer free meals to all students and did not have to meet the area eligibility test normally required to operate SSO.

2 School districts that participated in the SFSP waiver were able to offer free meals to all students and did not have to meet the area eligibility test normally required to operate SFSP.

3 School districts that participated in the SSO waiver were able to offer free meals to all students and did not have to meet the area eligibility test normally required to operate SSO. School districts were reimbursed at the summer food reimbursement rate but did not have the option to participate in the SFSP during the 2021–2022 school year.

Table 4: Waiver Take-Up by District, April 2021 and October 2021 (continued)

School District	State	USDA Child Nutrition Waivers Used by School Districts, April 2021						USDA Child Nutrition Waivers Used by School Districts, October 2021				
		Meal Times Waiver	Meal Pattern Waiver	Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver	Parent/Guardian Meal Pick-Up Waiver	SSO ¹	SFSP ²	Meal Times Waiver	Meal Pattern Waiver	Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver	Parent/Guardian Meal Pick-Up Waiver	SSO ³
Mesa Public Schools	AZ	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Minneapolis Public Schools	MN	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
New York City Department of Education	NY	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	–	X	X	SSO
Newark School District	NJ	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	–	–	X	–	SSO
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	NY	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Norfolk Public Schools	VA	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Oakland Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Oklahoma City Public Schools	OK	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	–	X	X	SSO
Omaha Public Schools	NE	X	X	–	–	–	SFSP	–	X	–	–	SSO
Pinellas County Schools	FL	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Pittsburg Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Pittsburgh Public Schools	PA	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Polk County Public Schools	FL	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	–	X	–	–	SSO
Portland Public Schools	OR	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Riverside Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
Salt Lake City School District	UT	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
San Antonio Independent School District	TX	X	–	X	X	–	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
San Bernardino City Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
San Diego Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
San Francisco Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	X	X	X	X	SSO
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	TX	X	X	–	–	SSO	–	X	X	–	–	SSO
School District of Lee County	FL	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
School District of Palm Beach County	FL	X	–	X	X	SSO	–	X	–	X	–	SSO
School District of Philadelphia	PA	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	–	–	–	–	SSO
School District U-46 (Elgin)	IL	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	–	X	–	–	SSO
Shelby County Schools	TN	X	X	X	X	SSO	–	–	X	–	X	SSO
Syracuse City School District	NY	X	X	X	X	–	SFSP	–	X	–	–	SSO
Toledo Public Schools	OH	–	X	–	X	SSO	–	X	X	–	X	SSO
Wake County Public School System	NC	X	–	X	X	–	SFSP	X	X	X	X	SSO
Waterbury Public Schools	CT	X	–	X	X	SSO	–	X	–	X	–	SSO
Number of districts who utilized each waiver		58	47	57	57	30	30	46	49	46	42	62
Percent of districts who utilized each waiver		94%	76%	92%	92%	48%	48%	74%	79%	74%	68%	100%

1 School districts that participated in the SSO waiver were able to offer free meals to all students and did not have to meet the area eligibility test normally required to operate SSO.

2 School districts that participated in the SFSP waiver were able to offer free meals to all students and did not have to meet the area eligibility test normally required to operate SFSP.

3 School districts that participated in the SSO waiver were able to offer free meals to all students and did not have to meet the area eligibility test normally required to operate SSO. School districts were reimbursed at the summer food reimbursement rate but did not have the option to participate in the SFSP during the 2021–2022 school year.

Table 5: Reported Benefits of Serving Free Meals to All Students

School District	State	Benefits Reported of Serving Free Meals to All Students								
		Reduces child hunger	Supports academic achievement	Increases # of fruits, vegetables & milk children consume	Advances racial equity	Eliminates school meal debt	Makes it easier for parents and guardians	Eases administrative work	Eliminates any stigma associated with school meals	Improves student behavior
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Anchorage School District	AK	X	X	–	–	–	–	X	–	–
Bibb County School District	GA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
Boise School District	ID	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Broward County Public Schools	FL	–	X	–	–	X	–	–	–	–
Charleston County School District	SC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Chicago Public Schools	IL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
Cincinnati Public Schools	OH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
Clark County School District	NV	X	–	–	–	X	X	X	–	–
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	OH	X	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	–
Cobb County School District	GA	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	X	–
Compton Unified School District	CA	–	–	X	–	X	–	X	X	–
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dallas Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Des Moines Public Schools	IA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Detroit Public Schools Community District	MI	X	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Duval County Public Schools	FL	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	X
Elizabeth Public Schools	NJ	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	X
Erie City School District	PA	X	–	–	–	–	X	X	X	X
Ferguson-Florissant School District	MO	X	–	–	–	–	X	–	–	X
Floyd County Schools	GA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fresno Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fulton County Schools	GA	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	–	–
Hawai'i Department of Education	HI	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Houston County School District	GA	X	X	–	–	X	X	X	X	–
Irving Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kalamazoo Public Schools	MI	X	X	X	X	X	X	–	X	X
Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	KS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
Knox County Schools	TN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
Little Rock School District	AR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Livingston Parish Public Schools	LA	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	–
Los Angeles Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	X
Mesa Public Schools	AZ	X	X	X	–	–	X	X	X	X

Table 5: Reported Benefits of Serving Free Meals to All Students (continued)

School District	State	Benefits Reported of Serving Free Meals to All Students								
		Reduces child hunger	Supports academic achievement	Increases # of fruits, vegetables & milk children consume	Advances racial equity	Eliminates school meal debt	Makes it easier for parents and guardians	Eases administrative work	Eliminates any stigma associated with school meals	Improves student behavior
Minneapolis Public Schools	MN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
New York City Department of Education	NY	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Newark School District	NJ	X	–	X	–	–	X	–	X	–
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	NY	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Norfolk Public Schools	VA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
Oakland Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
Oklahoma City Public Schools	OK	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Omaha Public Schools	NE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pinellas County Schools	FL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pittsburg Unified School District	CA	–	–	–	–	X	–	–	–	–
Pittsburgh Public Schools	PA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Polk County Public Schools	FL	X	X	–	–	X	X	X	X	X
Portland Public Schools	OR	X	X	X	–	–	X	–	X	X
Riverside Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Salt Lake City School District	UT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
San Antonio Independent School District	TX	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	X
San Bernardino City Unified School District	CA	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	–	X
San Diego Unified School District	CA	X	–	–	–	X	X	X	X	–
San Francisco Unified School District	CA	X	X	–	X	–	X	–	X	X
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	TX	X	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	X
School District of Lee County	FL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
School District of Palm Beach County	FL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
School District of Philadelphia	PA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	–
School District U-46 (Elgin)	IL	X	–	–	–	–	X	–	X	–
Shelby County Schools	TN	X	–	X	–	–	–	X	X	–
Syracuse City School District	NY	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Toledo Public Schools	OH	X	–	X	–	X	–	X	X	–
Wake County Public School System	NC	X	X	–	X	X	X	X	X	X
Waterbury Public Schools	CT	X	X	X	–	–	X	–	–	X
Number of districts who reported each benefit		59	51	48	36	50	55	52	53	38
Percent of districts who reported each benefit		95%	82%	77%	58%	81%	89%	84%	85%	61%

Table 6: Meals Served for Free, at a Reduced-Price (RP), or at the Paid Rate by District

School District	State	Total number of breakfasts claimed in April 2021 by eligibility category			Total number of lunches claimed in April 2021 by eligibility category			Total number of breakfasts claimed in Oct. 2021 by eligibility category ¹	Total number of lunches claimed in Oct. 2021 by eligibility category ¹
		Free	Reduced-Price	Paid	Free	Reduced-Price	Paid	Free	Free
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	310,463	–	–	450,103	–	–	421,052	716,359
Anchorage School District	AK	170,377	–	–	235,131	–	–	136,682	303,843
Bibb County School District	GA	150,797	–	–	208,478	–	–	107,161	198,490
Boise School District	ID	105,885	–	–	186,913	–	–	131,053	206,098
Broward County Public Schools	FL	615,466	–	–	1,241,562	–	–	719,174	2,130,634
Charleston County School District	SC	210,356	–	–	396,753	–	–	317,589	634,000
Chicago Public Schools	IL	708,288	–	–	830,850	–	–	1,897,338	3,067,981
Cincinnati Public Schools	OH	345,982	–	–	429,556	–	–	284,140	425,331
Clark County School District	NV	1,134,644	–	–	1,205,663	–	–	1,601,682	2,763,369
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	OH	103,326	–	–	149,221	–	–	290,402	451,091
Cobb County School District	GA	485,360	–	–	863,678	–	–	539,163	1,299,796
Compton Unified School District	CA	34,885	–	–	50,850	–	–	177,128	231,545
Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District	TX	630,882	–	–	1,178,014	–	–	688,368	1,539,341
Dallas Independent School District	TX	941,256	–	–	1,217,505	–	–	1,031,637	1,802,433
Des Moines Public Schools	IA	280,277	–	–	350,054	–	–	237,697	355,353
Detroit Public Schools Community District	MI	65,306	–	–	68,785	–	–	427,867	609,445
Duval County Public Schools	FL	672,141	–	–	986,194	–	–	783,086	1,204,643
Elizabeth Public Schools	NJ	156,476	–	–	110,667	–	–	251,508	395,197
Erie City School District	PA	88,901	–	–	112,429	–	–	89,628	141,852
Ferguson-Florissant School District	MO	43,235	–	–	48,723	–	–	84,624	113,927
Floyd County Schools	GA	59,538	–	–	80,041	–	–	53,145	87,075
Fresno Unified School District	CA	273,106	–	–	402,722	–	–	262,594	843,247
Fulton County Schools	GA	275,062	–	–	476,991	–	–	409,987	909,555
Hawai'i Department of Education	HI	390,521	1,243	2,932	868,623	13,763	121,363	400,402	1,346,555
Houston County School District	GA	321,730	–	–	424,019	–	–	237,390	346,789
Irving Independent School District	TX	315,579	N/A	N/A	387,291	N/A	N/A	274,119	422,331
Kalamazoo Public Schools	MI	65,308	–	–	65,011	–	–	118,961	147,196
Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	KS	166,885	–	–	249,602	–	–	206,466	318,039
Knox County Schools	TN	242,290	–	–	550,157	–	–	232,734	569,759
Little Rock School District	AR	100,559	–	–	149,227	–	–	150,340	228,336
Livingston Parish Public Schools	LA	182,610	–	–	289,179	–	–	220,246	376,098
Los Angeles Unified School District	CA	1,703,251	–	–	1,722,628	–	–	3,372,201	4,868,997
Mesa Public Schools	AZ	334,833	–	–	699,287	–	–	225,306	538,978

¹ All schools operated under SSO so meals were offered at no charge and reimbursed at the free rate.

Table 6: Meals Served for Free, at a Reduced-Price (RP), or at the Paid Rate by District (continued)

School District	State	Total number of breakfasts claimed in April 2021 by eligibility category			Total number of lunches claimed in April 2021 by eligibility category			Total number of breakfasts claimed in Oct. 2021 by eligibility category ¹	Total number of lunches claimed in Oct. 2021 by eligibility category ¹
		Free	Reduced-Price	Paid	Free	Reduced-Price	Paid	Free	Free
Minneapolis Public Schools	MN	125,860	–	–	150,270	–	–	172,195	288,935
New York City Department of Education	NY	3,948,169	–	–	5,093,048	–	–	5,695,011	10,736,674
Newark School District	NJ	145,370	N/A	N/A	146,076	N/A	N/A	421,320	475,547
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	NY	154,672	–	–	158,849	–	–	112,240	137,404
Norfolk Public Schools	VA	62,815	–	–	72,238	–	–	252,878	338,261
Oakland Unified School District	CA	402,194	–	–	402,194	–	–	179,192	266,113
Oklahoma City Public Schools	OK	30,282	–	–	347,763	–	–	170,116	312,652
Omaha Public Schools	NE	379,182	–	–	612,933	–	–	368,524	631,749
Pinellas County Schools	FL	535,144	–	–	840,594	–	–	519,718	1,037,173
Pittsburg Unified School District	CA	46,976	–	–	46,976	–	–	80,008	80,970
Pittsburgh Public Schools	PA	39,069	–	–	40,392	–	–	147,842	241,629
Polk County Public Schools	FL	26,370	–	–	48,142	–	–	30,804	60,240
Portland Public Schools	OR	215,374	–	–	216,884	–	–	130,867	365,812
Riverside Unified School District	CA	174,941	–	–	183,154	–	–	228,453	524,761
Salt Lake City School District	UT	80,311	–	–	136,198	–	–	89,377	213,878
San Antonio Independent School District	TX	311,046	–	–	345,772	–	–	480,777	633,128
San Bernardino City Unified School District	CA	249,095	–	–	249,095	–	–	188,738	552,130
San Diego Unified School District	CA	594,801	–	–	621,806	–	–	762,790	1,043,628
San Francisco Unified School District	CA	209,510	–	–	183,103	–	–	124,278	452,347
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	TX	46,326	–	–	96,808	–	–	53,086	113,567
School District of Lee County	FL	523,126	NA	NA	959,902	NA	NA	599,797	1,147,247
School District of Palm Beach County	FL	981,721	–	–	1,663,219	–	–	911,069	2,185,131
School District of Philadelphia	PA	384,381	–	–	383,220	–	–	781,127	1,185,641
School District U-46 (Elgin)	IL	386,106	–	–	345,676	–	–	215,327	409,801
Shelby County Schools	TN	602,562	–	–	669,609	–	–	651,954	997,400
Syracuse City School District	NY	138,788	–	–	149,374	–	–	166,795	225,680
Toledo Public Schools	OH	66,678	–	–	114,550	–	–	178,443	223,373
Wake County Public School System	NC	235,948	–	–	503,483	–	–	401,270	1,130,451
Waterbury Public Schools	CT	39,307	–	–	76,716	–	–	74,137	193,087
Total meals served at each rate		22,821,699	1,243	2,932	31,543,951	13,763	121,363	30,569,003	55,798,092
Percent of meals served at each rate		99.98%	0.01%	0.01%	99.57%	0.04%	0.38%	100%	100%

¹ All schools operated under SSO so meals were offered at no charge and reimbursed at the free rate.

Table 7: Average Daily Participation, April 2021 and October 2021

School District	State	Average Daily Participation in Breakfast, April 2021	Average Daily Participation in Lunch, April 2021	Ratio of Students Eating Breakfast for Every 100 Students in Lunch, April 2021	Average Daily Participation in Breakfast, October 2021	Average Daily Participation in Lunch, October 2021	Ratio of Students Eating Breakfast for Every 100 Students in Lunch, October 2021
Albuquerque Public Schools	NM	15,523	22,505	69.0	22,161	37,703	58.8
Anchorage School District	AK	7,744	10,688	72.5	7,194	15,992	45.0
Bibb County School District	GA	6,854	9,476	72.3	6,698	12,406	54.0
Boise School District	ID	3,530	6,230	56.6	6,553	10,305	63.6
Broward County Public Schools	FL	23,672	47,752	49.6	35,959	106,532	33.8
Charleston County School District	SC	13,147	24,797	53.0	15,879	31,700	50.1
Chicago Public Schools	IL	23,610	27,695	85.2	90,349	146,094	61.8
Cincinnati Public Schools	OH	11,533	14,319	80.5	13,530	20,254	66.8
Clark County School District	NV	42,024	44,654	94.1	84,299	145,441	58.0
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	OH	4,697	6,783	69.2	13,829	21,481	64.4
Cobb County School District	GA	25,545	45,457	56.2	26,958	64,990	41.5
Compton Unified School District	CA	2,180	3,178	68.6	8,435	11,026	76.5
Cypress–Fairbanks Independent School District	TX	30,042	56,096	53.6	34,418	76,967	44.7
Dallas Independent School District	TX	31,375	40,584	77.3	49,126	80,831	60.8
Des Moines Public Schools	IA	12,740	15,912	80.1	12,510	18,703	66.9
Detroit Public Schools Community District	MI	3,265	3,439	94.9	20,375	29,021	70.2
Duval County Public Schools	FL	33,607	49,310	68.2	39,154	60,232	65.0
Elizabeth Public Schools	NJ	8,236	5,825	141.4	12,575	19,760	63.6
Erie City School District	PA	2,963	3,748	79.1	4,481	7,093	63.2
Ferguson–Florissant School District	MO	2,882	3,248	88.7	4,454	5,996	74.3
Floyd County Schools	GA	3,134	4,213	74.4	3,543	5,805	61.0
Fresno Unified School District	CA	9,104	13,424	67.8	13,130	42,162	31.1
Fulton County Schools	GA	11,002	19,080	57.7	21,578	47,871	45.1
Hawai'i Department of Education	HI	18,795	47,798	39.3	19,067	64,122	29.7
Houston County School District	GA	16,087	21,201	75.9	15,826	23,119	68.5
Irving Independent School District ¹	TX	10,519	12,910	81.5	15,229	23,463	64.9
Kalamazoo Public Schools	MI	2,177	2,167	100.5	5,665	8,178 ²	69.3
Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools	KS	7,947	11,886	66.9	10,867	16,739	64.9
Knox County Schools	TN	12,115	27,508	44.0	14,546	35,610	40.8
Little Rock School District	AR	4,571	6,783	67.4	7,517	11,417	65.8

¹ Irving Independent School District provided updated numbers for average daily participation in breakfast and lunch for April 2021 and average daily participation for breakfast in October 2021 for this table.

² Kalamazoo Public Schools reported differing breakfast and lunch serving days. 18 serving days were used to calculate the average daily lunch participation in October 2021 for Kalamazoo Public Schools.

Table 7: Average Daily Participation, April 2021 and October 2021 (continued)

School District	State	Average Daily Participation in Breakfast, April 2021	Average Daily Participation in Lunch, April 2021	Ratio of Students Eating Breakfast for Every 100 Students in Lunch, April 2021	Average Daily Participation in Breakfast, October 2021	Average Daily Participation in Lunch, October 2021	Ratio of Students Eating Breakfast for Every 100 Students in Lunch, October 2021
Livingston Parish Public Schools	LA	11,413	18,074	63.1	11,012	18,805	58.6
Los Angeles Unified School District	CA	77,421	78,301	98.9	160,581	231,857	69.3
Mesa Public Schools	AZ	11,161	23,310	47.9	14,082	33,686	41.8
Minneapolis Public Schools	MN	7,866	9,392	83.8	9,566	16,052	59.6
New York City Department of Education	NY	197,408	254,652	77.5	284,751	536,834	53.0
Newark School District	NJ	8,551	8,593	99.5	21,066	23,777	88.6
Newburgh Enlarged City School District	NY	5,524	5,673	97.4	5,612	6,870	81.7
Norfolk Public Schools	VA	3,695	4,249	87.0	12,042	16,108	74.8
Oakland Unified School District	CA	13,406	13,406	100.0	8,960	13,306	67.3
Oklahoma City Public Schools	OK	1,376	15,807	8.7	11,341	20,843	54.4
Omaha Public Schools	NE	18,056	29,187	61.9	21,678	37,162	58.3
Pinellas County Schools	FL	25,483	40,028	63.7	25,986	51,859	50.1
Pittsburg Unified School District	CA	1,957	1,957	100.0	3,810	3,856	98.8
Pittsburgh Public Schools	PA	2,056	2,126	96.7	7,392	12,081	61.2
Polk County Public Schools	FL	1,256	2,292	54.8	1,540	3,012	51.1
Portland Public Schools	OR	8,615	8,675	99.3	6,543	18,291	35.8
Riverside Unified School District	CA	5,831	6,105	95.5	9,519	21,865	43.5
Salt Lake City School District	UT	4,016	6,810	59.0	4,704	11,257	41.8
San Antonio Independent School District	TX	16,371	18,199	90.0	24,039	31,656	75.9
San Bernardino City Unified School District	CA	8,303	8,303	100.0	9,934	29,059	34.2
San Diego Unified School District	CA	29,740	31,090	95.7	34,672	47,438	73.1
San Francisco Unified School District	CA	9,523	8,323	114.4	6,214	22,617	27.5
San Marcos Consolidated ISD	TX	2,206	4,610	47.9	2,654	5,678	46.7
School District of Lee County	FL	26,156	47,995	54.5	29,990	57,362	52.3
School District of Palm Beach County	FL	49,086	83,161	59.0	45,553	109,257	41.7
School District of Philadelphia	PA	12,813	12,774	100.3	39,056	59,282	65.9
School District U-46 (Elgin)	IL	12,870	11,523	111.7	11,333	21,568	52.5
Shelby County Schools	TN	31,714	35,243	90.0	40,747	62,338	65.4
Syracuse City School District	NY	6,309	6,790	92.9	8,340	11,284	73.9
Toledo Public Schools	OH	4,167	7,159	58.2	9,392	11,756	79.9
Wake County Public School System	NC	7,865	16,783	46.9	21,119	59,497	35.5
Waterbury Public Schools	CT	1,709	3,335	51.2	3,902	10,162	38.4
Total		1,024,907	1,433,035	71.5	1,543,036	2,817,488	54.8



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