School Breakfast Program Participation and Meals Served

Data as of October 9, 2026

Fiscal Years	Total Participation Free (millions)	Total Participation Red. Price (millions)	Total Participation Paid (millions)	Total Participation (millions)	Total Meals Served (millions)	Free/ RP of Total Meals (percent)
1969	--	--	--	0.22	39.70	71.0
1970	--	--	--	0.45	71.80	71.5
1971	0.60	2]	0.20	0.80	125.50	76.3
1972	0.81	2]	0.23	1.04	169.30	78.5
1973	0.99	2]	0.20	1.19	194.10	83.4
1974	1.14	2]	0.24	1.37	226.70	82.8
1975	1.45	0.04	0.33	1.82	294.70	82.1
1976	1.76	0.06	0.37	2.20	353.60	84.2
1977	2.02	0.11	0.36	2.49	434.30	85.7
1978	2.23	0.16	0.42	2.80	478.80	85.3
1979	2.56	0.21	0.54	3.32	565.60	84.1
1980	2.79	0.25	0.56	3.60	619.90	85.2
1981	3.05	0.25	0.51	3.81	644.20	86.9
1982	2.80	0.16	0.36	3.32	567.40	89.3
1983	2.87	0.15	0.34	3.36	580.70	90.3
1984	2.91	0.15	0.37	3.43	589.20	89.7
1985	2.88	0.16	0.40	3.44	594.90	88.6
1986	2.93	0.16	0.41	3.50	610.60	88.7
1987	3.01	0.17	0.43	3.61	621.50	88.4
1988	3.03	0.18	0.47	3.68	642.50	87.5
1989	3.11	0.19	0.51	3.81	658.45	86.8
1990	3.30	0.22	0.55	4.07	707.49	86.7
1991	3.61	0.25	0.58	4.44	771.86	87.3
1992	4.05	0.26	0.61	4.92	852.43	88
1993	4.41	0.28	0.66	5.36	923.56	87.9
1994	4.76	0.32	0.75	5.83	1,001.52	87.4
1995	5.10	0.37	0.85	6.32	1,078.92	86.8
1996	5.27	0.41	0.90	6.58	1,125.74	86.5
1997	5.52	0.45	0.95	6.92	1,191.21	86.5
1998	5.63	0.50	1.01	7.14	1,220.90	86.1
1999	5.71	0.56	1.09	7.37	1,267.62	85.4
2000	5.72	0.61	1.21	7.55	1,303.35	84.2
2001	5.80	0.67	1.32	7.79	1,334.51	83.2
2002	6.03	0.70	1.41	8.15	1,404.76	82.9
2003	6.22	0.74	1.47	8.43	1,447.90	82.8
2004	6.52	0.80	1.58	8.90	1,524.91	82.4
2005	6.80	0.86	1.70	9.36	1,603.88	82.1
2006	6.99	0.92	1.86	9.76	1,663.07	81.2
2007	7.15	0.98	1.99	10.12	1,713.96	80.6
2008	7.48	1.04	2.08	10.61	1,812.41	80.6
2009	7.99	1.07	2.01	11.08	1,866.65	82.1
2010	8.68	1.05	1.94	11.67	1,968.01	83.5
2011	9.19	0.98	2.00	12.17	2,048.09	83.7
2012	9.78	1.04	2.05	12.87	2,145.05	84.2
2013	10.16	1.02	2.02	13.20	2,223.00	84.8
2014	10.54	1.01	2.08	13.64	2,273.59	84.9
2015	11.05	0.90	2.10	14.05	2,334.12	85.2
2016	11.52	0.86	2.19	14.56	2,448.56	85.1
2017	11.60	0.84	2.23	14.66	2,412.87	85
2018	11.77	0.77	2.17	14.71	2,422.44	85.4
2019	11.79	0.74	2.23	14.77	2,451.15	85.1
2020	10.19	0.50	1.61	12.31	1,817.94	87.7
2021	6.98	0.01	0.04	7.03	1,367.48	99.4
2022	15.78	0.06	0.33	16.17	2,678.28	97
2023	11.02	0.50	3.04	14.57	2,389.57	79.5
2024	11.96	0.42	3.17	15.54	2,551.09	80.1
2025	12.40	0.37	3.06	15.7	2,567.73	80.2

** In SY 2020-2021, many schools served meals through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) due to the COVID-19 waivers. The COVID-19 waiver which allowed schools to serve meals through the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and report separately started in SY 2021-2022. FY 2021 - 2022 data includes meals served through the SSO.

All data are subject to revision.

1] Nine month average: October-May plus September.

2] Included with free participation.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.