## FRAC

Food Research \& Action Center

## School Breakfast Scorecard

School Year 2017-2018

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# School Breakfast Scorecard 

## School Year 2017-2018

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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, or to sign up for FRAC's Weekly News Digest and monthly Meals Matter: School Breakfast Newsletter, visit: frac.org.

## I. Introduction

The national School Breakfast Program provided nearly 12.5 million low-income students on an average day in the 2017-2018 school year with the nutrition they needed to start the school day ready to learn. That participation number was 1.2 percent higher than in the prior school year, even as an improving economy reduced the number of low-income students. A higher proportion of low-income children received school breakfast in the 2017-2018 school year, albeit the growth was at a slower rate than in previous school years.

The increase in participation, as in previous years, was driven substantially by more schools moving breakfast out of the cafeteria and into the classroom, thus making breakfast part of the school day. In addition, increased school breakfast participation was due to more schools offering breakfast (and lunch) at no charge to all students, primarily through the Community Eligibility Provision, along with improvements in identifying low-income children who are eligible for free school meals. These proven strategies overcome the timing and stigma barriers common to a traditional school breakfast program that is served in the cafeteria before the school day starts, and have driven substantial growth over the past decade. In the 2017-2018 school year, 4 million more low-income children received school breakfast on an average day than in the 20072008 school year.

School breakfast participation is linked to numerous health and educational benefits. Participation leads to improved dietary intake, reduced food insecurity, better test scores, ${ }^{1}$ improved student health, ${ }^{2}$ and fewer distractions ${ }^{3}$ in the classroom throughout the morning. Recognizing these connections, a growing number of school administrators,
school nutrition directors, and educators have been working with their state child nutrition agencies, antihunger and community advocates, and other stakeholders to increase school breakfast participation in their school districts.

Even as many schools and school districts are moving in the right direction, many still continue to offer breakfast in the cafeteria before the start of the school day, resulting in too many low-income students missing out on a nutritious and healthy start to their school day. Just 57 low-income students participated in school breakfast for every 100 who participated in school lunch in the 2017-2018 school year. The Food Research \& Action Center's ambitious but attainable goal of every state serving school breakfast to 70 low-income students for every 100 who eat school lunch would result in more than 2.8 million additional children a year participating in school breakfast.

The continued increase in school breakfast participation among low-income children each year moves the nation closer to the goal of serving school breakfast to 70 lowincome students for every 100 who eat school lunch. This should be celebrated, but the slowing rate of growth may increase the amount of time it takes to reach the goal, signaling the need for more aggressive action to move more schools in the right direction. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, state child nutrition agencies, policymakers, educators, anti-hunger advocates, and other stakeholders can work together to foster the broadened implementation of strong policies that will increase school breakfast participation.

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#### Abstract

About the Scorecard This report measures the reach of the School Breakfast Program in the 2017-2018 school year - nationally and in each state - based on a variety of metrics, and examines the impact of select trends and policies on program participation.

The report measures free and reduced-price school breakfast participation on an average school day to determine how many low-income students school breakfast is reaching nationally and in each state, using the ratio to free and reduced-price school lunch participation as a benchmark. Because there is broad participation in the National School 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 school breakfast each school day. The report also compares the number of schools offering the School Breakfast Program to the number of schools operating the National School Lunch Program in each state, as this is an important indicator of access to the program for low-income children.

Finally, the Food Research \& Action Center sets an ambitious but achievable goal of reaching 70 low-income students with breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch; and calculates the number of children not being served and the federal dollars lost in each state as a result of not meeting this goal.

## How the School Breakfast Program Works

## Who Operates the School Breakfast Program?

Any public school, nonprofit private school, or residential child care institution can participate in the national School Breakfast Program and receive federal funds for each breakfast served. The program is administered at the federal level by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and in each state, typically through the state department of education or agriculture.

## Who Can Participate in the School Breakfast Program?

Any student attending a school that offers the program can eat breakfast. What the federal government covers, and what a student pays, depends on family income:

- Children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) are eligible for free school meals.

Children from families with incomes between 130 and 185 percent of the FPL qualify for reduced-price
meals and can be charged no more than 30 cents per breakfast.

- Children from families with incomes above 185 percent of the FPL pay charges (referred to as "paid meals"), which are set by the school.

Other federal and, in some cases, state rules, however, make it possible to offer free meals to all children, or to all children in households with incomes under 185 percent of the FPL, especially in schools with high proportions of lowincome children.

## How are Children Certified for Free or Reduced-Price Meals?

Most children are certified for free or reduced-price meals via applications collected by the school district at the beginning of the school year or during the year. However, children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), as
well as foster youth, migrant, homeless, or runaway youth, and Head Start participants are "categorically eligible" (automatically eligible) for free school meals and can be certified without submitting a school meal application.

School districts are required to "directly certify" children in households participating in SNAP for free school meals through data matching of SNAP records with school enrollment lists. School districts also have the option of directly certifying other categorically eligible children as well. Some states also utilize income information from Medicaid to directly certify students as eligible for free and reduced-price school meals.

Schools also should use data from the state to certify categorically eligible students. Schools can coordinate with other personnel, such as the school district's homeless and migrant education liaisons, to obtain documentation to certify children for free school meals. Some categorically eligible children may be missed in this process, requiring the household to submit a school meals application. However, these households are not required to complete the income information section of the application.

## How are School Districts Reimbursed?

The federal reimbursement rate schools receive for each meal served depends on whether a student is receiving free, reduced-price, or paid meals.

For the 2017-2018 school year, schools received
$\$ 1.75$ per free breakfast;
\$1.45 per reduced-price breakfast; and
$\$ 0.30$ per "paid" breakfast.
"Severe-need" schools received an additional 34 cents for each free or reduced-price breakfast served. Schools are considered severe need if at least 40 percent of the lunches served during the second preceding school year were free or reduced-price.

## Offering Breakfast Free to All

Many high-poverty schools are able to offer free meals to all students, with federal reimbursements based on the proportions of low-income children in the school. Providing breakfast at no charge to all students helps remove the stigma often associated with means-tested school breakfast (that breakfast in school is for "the poor kids"), opens the program to children from families that would struggle to pay the reduced-price copayment or the paid breakfast charges, and streamlines the implementation of breakfast in the classroom and other alternative service models. Schools can offer free breakfast to all students through the following options:

- 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. For more information on community eligibility, see pages 10 and 11.
- Provision 2: Schools using Provision 2 (referring to 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 multi-year 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 or 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).


# II. Summary of National Findings 

$n$ the 2017-2018 school year, school breakfast participation continued to grow. ${ }^{4}$ The rate of growth has slowed, however, during the last two school years compared to an average growth of 3.5 percent between the 2012-2013 and 2015-2016 school years.

- On an average school day, 14.6 million children participated in the School Breakfast Program; nearly 12.5 million of them were low-income children who received a free or reduced-price school breakfast.

■ Breakfast participation among low-income (free or reduced-price certified) children increased from $12,303,493$ to $12,452,485$ students, up by nearly 149,000 students, or 1.2 percent, over the previous school year. While participation has continued to increase, the rate of growth has slowed during the last two school years compared to the rate of growth each year from the 2012-2013 school year to the 2015-2016 school year.

- The ratio of low-income children participating in school breakfast to low-income children participating in school lunch increased slightly, to 57 per 100 in school year 2017-2018, up from 56.7 per 100 in the previous school year.


Figure 1: Free and Reduced-Price Participation in the School Breakfast Program


- If all states met the Food Research \& Action Center's goal of reaching 70 low-income children with school breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch, an additional 2.8 million low-income children would have started the day with a healthy breakfast at school. States and school districts would have tapped into an additional $\$ 804.7$ million in federal funding to support school food services and local economies.
- The number of schools offering school meal programs decreased slightly, with 89,377 schools offering breakfast and 95,939 offering school lunch. The share of schools offering school breakfast, compared to those that offer school lunch, improved slightly to 93.2 percent, an increase from 92.5 percent in the previous school year.

[^1]
# III. Summary of State Findings 

For the fifth year in a row, West Virginia was the topperforming state in school breakfast participation, reaching 83.7 low-income students with school breakfast for every 100 who participated in school lunch, a slight drop of 1.6 points from the prior school year.

For the fourth year in a row, New Mexico also met the Food Research \& Action Center's national benchmark of reaching 70 low-income students with school breakfast for every 100 who ate school lunch, with a ratio of 70.1 to 100 , a slight decrease of 0.2 points from the prior school year. This is the third year in a row that New Mexico has been the only state other than West Virginia to meet the benchmark.

Sixteen other states - Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, and Virginia, as well as the District of Columbia, reached at least 60 low-income children with school breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch, while an additional two states (Alabama and New Jersey) were less than one point shy of meeting that ratio.

Top 10 States: Ratio of Free and Reduced-Price School Breakfast to Lunch Participation, School Year 2017-2018

| State | Ratio of Free and Reduced-Price <br> Students in School Breakfast <br> per 100 in School Lunch |
| :--- | :---: |
| West Virginia | 83.7 |
| New Mexico | 70.1 |
| Vermont | 69.5 |
| District of Columbia | 67.7 |
| Kentucky | 66.0 |
| Arkansas | 65.7 |
| Tennessee | 64.6 |
| Delaware | 62.8 |
| South Carolina | 62.8 |
| Texas | 62.7 |

## Breakfast After the Bell

Implementing a breakfast after the bell model that moves breakfast out of the cafeteria and makes it more accessible and a part of the regular school day has proven to be the most successful strategy for increasing school breakfast participation. Breakfast after the bell service models overcome timing, convenience, and stigma barriers that get in the way of children participating in school breakfast, and are even more impactful when they are combined with offering breakfast at no charge to all students. Schools have three options when offering 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 the components of 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 homeroom or first period. Many middle and high school students are not hungry first thing in the morning. Serving these students breakfast after first period allows them ample opportunity to arrive to class on time, while still providing them the opportunity to get a nutritious start to the day.

Five states - Florida, Louisiana, Montana, New York, and Virginia - saw an increase in the number of participants of at least 5 percent in the 2017-2018 school year when compared to the prior school year. When comparing the ratio of low-income students participating in school breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch, Montana jumped from 34th among the states in school year 2016-2017 to 23rd in school year 2017-2018 - the largest increase in rank among all states. The state saw an increase of 3,220 low-income students participating in school breakfast compared to the prior year, an increase of 12.3 percent. This resulted in a ratio of 58.9 free and reduced-priced students participating in school breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch, an increase of 6.9 points over the prior school year. Among the four other states, New York saw an 8.5 percent increase in the number of free and reduced-priced students participating in breakfast; Florida, a 7.5 percent increase; Louisiana, a 6.9 percent increase; and Virginia, a 6.8 percent increase.

While school breakfast participation among low-income students increased nationally, 28 states served fewer lowincome children in school year 2017-2018 compared to the prior year. Of these 28 states, 20 saw decreases between 1 and 6.5 percent in the number of low-income students participating in breakfast. Eight states saw a decrease of less than 1 percent.

## New York's Participation Continues to Grow

New York saw the largest increase in the number of low-income students participating in school breakfast in school year 2017-2018, with over 56,000 more low-income students participating in school breakfast than the prior school year. This increase is due in large part to the New York City Department of Education's multi-year rollout of a districtwide breakfast after the bell program in its elementary schools, combined with the implementation of community eligibility districtwide in the 2017-2018 school year.

Utah remained the lowest-performing state in school year 2017-2018, serving breakfast to 39.4 students for every 100 who received lunch, a 0.2 percent decrease compared to the prior school year. Eight additional states - Hawaii, Illinois, lowa, Nebraska, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming - failed to reach even half of the low-income students who ate school lunch in the 2017-2018 school year.

Top 10 States Based on Percentage Growth in the Number of Free and Reduced-Price Breakfast Participants, School Year 2016-2017 to School Year 2017-2018

| State | Percent Increase of Free and <br> Reduced-Price Students in <br> School Breakfast Program |
| :--- | :---: |
| Montana | $12.3 \%$ |
| New York | $8.5 \%$ |
| Florida | $7.5 \%$ |
| Louisiana | $6.9 \%$ |
| Virginia | $6.8 \%$ |
| District of Columbia | $4.6 \%$ |
| Illinois | $4.2 \%$ |
| Nebraska | $4.1 \%$ |
| North Dakota | $3.7 \%$ |
| Vermont | $3.7 \%$ |

Bottom 10 States: Ratio of Free and Reduced-Price School Breakfast to Lunch Participation, School Year 2017-2018

| State | Ratio of Free and Reduced-Price <br> Students in School Breakfast per <br> 100 in School Lunch |
| :--- | :---: |
| Kansas | 50.0 |
| Illinois | 49.7 |
| Washington | 46.9 |
| South Dakota | 46.3 |
| Wyoming | 46.1 |
| Nebraska | 44.1 |
| New Hampshire | 43.8 |
| lowa | 43.7 |
| Hawaii | 39.7 |
| Utah | 39.4 |

## The Fiscal Cost of Low Participation

Low participation in the School Breakfast Program is costly on many levels. Students miss out on the educational and health benefits associated with eating school breakfast, while states and school districts miss out on substantial federal funding. Only two states met the Food Research \& Action Center's challenging but attainable goal of reaching 70 low-income students with school breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch, proving there is ample opportunity for growth in many states.

For the District of Columbia and the 48 states that did not meet this goal, the Food Research \& Action Center measures the number of additional children who would have started the school day with a nutritious breakfast, as well as the additional funding that the state would have received if it had achieved this goal. In total, over \$804.7 million in federal funding for low-income children was left on the table in the 2017-2018 school year, with 12 states each passing up more than $\$ 20$ million in additional federal funding. The three largest states - California, Florida, and New York - together missed out on more than $\$ 255$ million.

## School Participation

In 38 states and the District of Columbia, 90 percent or more of schools that operated the National School Lunch Program also offered the School Breakfast Program in the 2017-2018 school year. The number of schools offering breakfast compared to lunch is an important indicator of access to the School Breakfast Program. More should be done to increase breakfast service, especially in states with low school participation in the School Breakfast Program.

In Arkansas, Delaware, South Carolina, Texas, and the District of Columbia, almost all (99 percent or more) schools that offered school lunch also offered school breakfast in the 2017-2018 school year. Illinois, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Jersey, and Wisconsin
were the lowest performers in terms of school participation in the School Breakfast Program - in each of these states, less than 85 percent of the schools that offered lunch also offered breakfast in the 2017-2018 school year.

Top 10 States for School Participation, School Year 2017-2018

| State | Ratio of Schools Offering <br> Breakfast to Schools <br> Offering Lunch |
| :--- | :---: |
| Texas | 99.8 |
| South Carolina | 99.7 |
| Delaware | 99.6 |
| District of Columbia | 99.1 |
| Arkansas | 99.0 |
| West Virginia | 98.9 |
| North Carolina | 98.7 |
| Florida | 98.6 |
| Maryland | 98.6 |
| Tennessee | 98.5 |

Bottom 10 States for School Participation, School Year 2017-2018

| State | Ratio of Schools Offering <br> Breakfast to Schools <br> Offering Lunch |
| :--- | :---: |
| Ohio | 88.4 |
| Minnesota | 88.0 |
| South Dakota | 86.2 |
| Connecticut | 85.3 |
| Colorado | 85.1 |
| Massachusetts | 84.5 |
| Illinois | 84.1 |
| Nebraska | 83.5 |
| Wisconsin | 82.8 |
| New Jersey | 82.6 |

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## IV. Best Practices in the 2017-2018 School Year

## Community Eligibility Continues to Grow

In the 2017-2018 school year, over 24,000 schools with a student enrollment of more than 11.6 million students participated in community eligibility, a federal option that allows high-poverty schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students. This represents an increase of more than 4,000 schools and 1.9 million children compared to the prior school year. ${ }^{5}$ Community eligibility has continued to grow since it first became available nationwide in the 2014-2015 school year, and remains a popular option among high-poverty schools and school districts as a way to ensure that all students have access to school meals, while simultaneously easing administrative burdens.

Since its initial rollout, best practices have been established to ensure broad implementation of community eligibility by high-poverty schools and school districts. These include strategies to maximize federal reimbursements to support the financial viability of adopting community eligibility, such as implementing breakfast in the classroom, providing afterschool meals, offering healthy and appealing meals, and tracking popular menu items.

There still remains room to increase the number of schools adopting community eligibility. Advocates should continue to work with state and local stakeholders to build support for the provision and effectively communicate with all parties to address issues that have thus far discouraged some eligible schools and school districts from participating, such as challenges associated with the loss of traditional school meal application data and low direct certification rates. Additionally, eligible schools and school districts should analyze their school finances to determine if community eligibility is a viable option. For more information, see the Food Research \& Action Center's Community Eligibility webpage.

## Community Eligibility's Impact on School Breakfast

Many of the states that are leading the way in school breakfast participation - Kentucky, New Mexico, Vermont, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia - have broadly implemented community eligibility. Since community eligibility offers breakfast at no charge to all students, and makes it easier for schools to implement breakfast after the bell service models, community eligibility helps schools overcome the primary barriers to school breakfast participation timing and stigma.


[^2]
## How Community Eligibility Works


#### Abstract

Authorized by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, and phased in first in select states and then nationwide, the Community Eligibility Provision allows high-poverty schools to offer breakfast and lunch free of charge to all students and to realize significant administrative savings by eliminating school meal applications. Any district, group of schools in a district, or school with 40 percent or more "identified students" - children who are eligible for free school meals who already are identified as such by means other than an individual household application - can choose to participate. "Identified students" include - children who are directly certified for free school meals through data matching because their households receive SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR benefits, or, in some states, Medicaid benefits; - children who are certified for free meals without an application because they are homeless, migrant, enrolled in Head Start, or in foster care.


## State School Breakfast Legislation

School breakfast legislation offers an important opportunity to overcome some important barriers to participating in school breakfast, especially as the growth in school breakfast participation has begun to slow and a significant gap between school breakfast and lunch participation remains. Successful approaches include requiring all or some schools to operate breakfast in the classroom or another alternative service model, requiring high-poverty schools to offer breakfast at no charge to all students, and eliminating the reduced-price copayment.

Many of the states with the strongest breakfast participation have passed legislation: Nevada, New Mexico, and the District of Columbia require high-poverty schools (both traditional and charter schools) to implement an alternative service model. The District of Columbia also

Community eligibility schools are reimbursed for meals served, based on a formula. Because of evidence that the ratio of all eligible children-to-children in these identified categories would be 1.6 -to-1, Congress built that into the formula. Reimbursements to the school are calculated by multiplying the percentage of identified students by 1.6 to determine the percentage of meals that will be reimbursed at the federal free rate. For example, a school with 50 percent identified students would be reimbursed at the free rate for 80 percent of the meals eaten ( 50 multiplied by $1.6=80$ ), and 20 percent at the paid rate.

School districts also may choose to participate districtwide or group schools however they choose if the district or group has an overall identified student percentage of 40 percent or higher.

Find out which schools in your state or community are participating or are eligible for the Community Eligibility Provision with the Food Research \& Action Center's database.
offers free breakfast in all public schools. West Virginia requires all schools to implement an alternative service model and encourages schools to offer breakfast for free. Texas requires high-poverty schools to offer free breakfast to all students.

Most recently, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, and Washington have passed legislation that requires highpoverty schools to implement alternative service models. California has required schools with the highest poverty rates to offer free breakfast and lunch, and Maryland passed legislation to phase in the elimination of the reduced-price copayment for breakfast and lunch. For more information on state legislation and policies that support school breakfast participation, refer to the Food Research \& Action Center's School Meals Legislation and 2017-2018 Funding Chart.

## Unpaid School Meal Fee Policies

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 required the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to examine schools' policies related to unpaid school meal fees and determine the feasibility of national standards for such policies. In 2016, USDA published guidance requiring all school districts participating in the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program to establish and clearly communicate a local meal charge policy for the 2017-2018 school year by July 1, 2017. A school district's policy guides schools on how to handle situations when students who are not certified for free school meals arrive in the cafeteria without cash in hand or in their school meals account. The policy impacts two categories of students: those who are not certified for free or reduced-price school meals and are charged the meal price set by the school district; and those who are certified for reduced-price school meals and are charged 30 cents per day for breakfast and 40 cents for lunch.

USDA did not establish national standards for these policies, nor set any baseline of protections for school districts or states to provide students and their families. All policies, however, should prohibit students from being singled out or embarrassed if they are unable to pay for their school meal; require schools to directly communicate with the parent or guardian - not the students - about unpaid school meal debt; take steps to qualify students for free or reduced-price school meals, when they are eligible, if they have unpaid
school meal debt; and support a positive school environment. Two best practices - offering free breakfast to all students and eliminating the reducedprice copayment - can help reduce dramatically unpaid school meal debt, while increasing school breakfast participation.

States can develop a policy to be implemented by all participating school districts or provide guidelines for school districts to create a policy that complies with the state requirement. Since 2017, 14 states - including California, New Mexico, New York, and Oregon have passed legislation requiring school districts in their respective states to create policies that protect children from stigma, and ensure that eligible families are certified for school meal benefits. A number of additional states are considering setting policy through legislation. Some states, such as West Virginia, have established guidelines to protect students from stigma (through administrative action, without passing state legislation) that all school districts must follow when creating their policy.

For more information on this issue, including model policies, see the Food Research \& Action Center's resources: Establishing Unpaid Meal Fee Policies: Best Practices to Ensure Access and Prevent Stigma; Unpaid School Meal Fees: A Review of 50 Large Districts; and Best Practices for Engaging Households About School Meal Debt.

## V. Conclusion

The School Breakfast Program served nearly 12.5 million low-income students in the 2017-2018 school year, an increase of 1.2 percent from the previous year. This growth occurred even as the improving economy reduced the number of low-income students. The best practices that are driving increased participation - offering free breakfast to all students through community eligibility, and serving meals through breakfast after the bell service models - continue to help schools overcome the common barriers associated with the program, such as timing, convenience, and stigma, all of which lead to decreased participation.
Even as national participation increased, and a handful of states dramatically grew participation, a majority of states'
participation rates remained flat or slightly decreased in the 2017-2018 school year. These states, as well as those that have not met the Food Research \& Action Center's national benchmark of serving school breakfast to 70 low-income students for every 100 who participate in school lunch, should redouble their efforts to increase participation and promote best practices. Many more states should pass school breakfast legislation as a vehicle for increasing school breakfast participation, just as a growing number of states have done. Collaboration among the U.S. Department of Agriculture, state child nutrition agencies, policymakers, educators, and antihunger advocates is necessary to ensure all students start the day with a healthy school breakfast.

> The best practices that are driving increased participation offering free breakfast to all students through community eligibility, and serving meals through breakfast after the bell service models continue to help schools overcome the common barriers associated with the program, such as timing, convenience, and stigma.

## Technical Notes

The data in this report are collected from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and an annual survey of state child nutrition officials conducted by the Food Research \& Action Center (FRAC). This report does not include data for students or schools that participate in school meal programs in Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or Department of Defense schools.

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

Student participation data for the 2017-2018 school year and prior years are based on daily averages of the number of breakfasts and lunches served on school days during the nine months from September through May of each year, as provided by USDA. States report to USDA the number of meals they serve each month. These numbers may undergo later revisions by states as accounting procedures find errors, or other estimates become confirmed.

For consistency, all USDA data used in this report are from the states' 90-day revisions of the monthly reports. The 90-day revisions are the final required reports from the states, but states have the option to change numbers at any time after that point.

Based on information from USDA, FRAC applies a formula (divide average daily participation by an attendance factor) to adjust numbers upwards to account for children who were absent from school on a particular day. In previous releases of the School Breakfast Scorecard, FRAC used an attendance factor of 0.938 , but after consultation with USDA, this report uses an attendance factor of 0.927 to adjust the average daily participation numbers in breakfast and lunch for both the 2016-2017 school year and the 2017-2018 school year. As a result, the 2016-2017
school year participation data in this report do not match the 2016-2017 data in the previous School Breakfast Scorecard released in 2018.

The number of participating schools is reported by states to USDA in October of the relevant school year. The number includes not only public schools, but also private schools, residential child care institutions, and other institutions that operate school meal programs. FRAC's School Breakfast Scorecard uses the October number, which is verified by FRAC with state officials, and FRAC provides an opportunity for state officials to update or correct the school numbers.

For each state, FRAC calculates the average daily number of children receiving free or reduced-price breakfasts for every 100 children who were receiving free or reducedprice lunches during the same school year. Based on the top states' performance, FRAC has set an attainable benchmark of every state reaching a ratio of 70 children receiving free or reduced-price school breakfast for every 100 receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. FRAC then calculates the number of additional children who would be reached if each state reached this 70-to-100 ratio. FRAC multiplies this unserved population by the reimbursement rate for breakfast for each state's average number of school days of breakfast during the 2017-2018 school year.

FRAC assumes each state's mix of free and reducedprice students would apply to any new participants, and conservatively assumes that no additional students' meals are reimbursed at the somewhat higher rate that severe-need schools receive for breakfast. Severe-need schools are those where more than 40 percent of lunches served in the second preceding school year were free or reduced-price.

Table 1:
Low-Income Student Participation in School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast (SBP), School Years 2016-2017 ${ }^{1}$ and 2017-2018

| State | School Year 2016-2017 |  |  |  | School Year 2017-2018 |  |  |  | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Change } \\ \text { in Ratio } \\ \text { of SBP } \\ \text { to NSLP } \\ \text { Participation } \end{gathered}\right.$ | Percent Change in Number of F\&RP Students in SBP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Free \& ReducedPrice (F\&RP) SBP Students | F\&RP NSLP Students | F\&RP Students in SBP per 100 in NSLP | Rank Among States | Free \& ReducedPrice (F\&RP) SBP Students | F\&RP NSLP Students | F\&RP Students in SBP per 100 in NSLP | Rank Among States |  |  |
| Alabama | 232,162 | 390,761 | 59.4 | 18 | 227,749 | 381,580 | 59.7 | 20 | 0.3 | -1.9\% |
| Alaska | 23,200 | 41,932 | 55.3 | 28 | 22,984 | 41,672 | 55.2 | 29 | -0.1 | -0.9\% |
| Arizona | 271,267 | 498,770 | 54.4 | 29 | 269,293 | 488,816 | 55.1 | 30 | 0.7 | -0.7\% |
| Arkansas | 156,351 | 244,907 | 63.8 | 8 | 157,877 | 240,289 | 65.7 | 6 | 1.9 | 1.0\% |
| California | 1,467,517 | 2,607,025 | 56.3 | 26 | 1,451,915 | 2,582,731 | 56.2 | 28 | -0.1 | -1.1\% |
| Colorado | 144,723 | 242,230 | 59.7 | 14 | 142,030 | 235,143 | 60.4 | 17 | 0.7 | -1.9\% |
| Connecticut | 89,238 | 173,091 | 51.6 | 38 | 91,829 | 178,530 | 51.4 | 37 | -0.2 | 2.9\% |
| Delaware | 42,158 | 67,658 | 62.3 | 12 | 41,979 | 66,831 | 62.8 | 8 | 0.5 | -0.4\% |
| District of Columbia | 30,885 | 45,610 | 67.7 | 3 | 32,317 | 47,708 | 67.7 | 4 | 0.0 | 4.6\% |
| Florida | 737,239 | 1,443,648 | 51.1 | 39 | 792,185 | 1,548,519 | 51.2 | 40 | 0.1 | 7.5\% |
| Georgia | 561,059 | 939,141 | 59.7 | 15 | 553,981 | 922,180 | 60.1 | 19 | 0.4 | -1.3\% |
| Hawaii | 27,571 | 65,925 | 41.8 | 49 | 26,170 | 65,867 | 39.7 | 50 | -2.1 | -5.1\% |
| Idaho | 58,786 | 100,197 | 58.7 | 22 | 54,956 | 96,490 | 57.0 | 26 | -1.7 | -6.5\% |
| Illinois | 394,128 | 828,363 | 47.6 | 43 | 410,643 | 825,852 | 49.7 | 43 | 2.1 | 4.2\% |
| Indiana | 232,114 | 450,019 | 51.6 | 37 | 233,605 | 455,988 | 51.2 | 38 | -0.4 | 0.6\% |
| lowa | 81,271 | 185,668 | 43.8 | 47 | 80,426 | 184,169 | 43.7 | 49 | -0.1 | -1.0\% |
| Kansas | 99,579 | 198,337 | 50.2 | 40 | 96,866 | 193,888 | 50.0 | 42 | -0.2 | -2.7\% |
| Kentucky | 279,333 | 429,456 | 65.0 | 5 | 283,974 | 430,425 | 66.0 | 5 | 1.0 | 1.7\% |
| Louisiana | 261,596 | 459,191 | 57.0 | 25 | 279,739 | 460,391 | 60.8 | 16 | 3.8 | 6.9\% |
| Maine | 37,550 | 61,782 | 60.8 | 13 | 36,802 | 59,874 | 61.5 | 13 | 0.7 | -2.0\% |
| Maryland | 201,869 | 318,768 | 63.3 | 9 | 195,775 | 315,147 | 62.1 | 12 | -1.2 | -3.0\% |
| Massachusetts | 182,488 | 346,293 | 52.7 | 33 | 186,747 | 347,189 | 53.8 | 33 | 1.1 | 2.3\% |
| Michigan | 334,280 | 563,531 | 59.3 | 20 | 331,976 | 563,343 | 58.9 | 22 | -0.4 | -0.7\% |
| Minnesota | 157,997 | 293,031 | 53.9 | 30 | 158,570 | 289,591 | 54.8 | 32 | 0.9 | 0.4\% |
| Mississippi | 188,818 | 316,502 | 59.7 | 16 | 185,268 | 308,253 | 60.1 | 18 | 0.4 | -1.9\% |
| Missouri | 226,548 | 380,177 | 59.6 | 17 | 226,474 | 371,665 | 60.9 | 15 | 1.3 | 0.0\% |
| Montana | 26,259 | 50,515 | 52.0 | 34 | 29,479 | 50,041 | 58.9 | 23 | 6.9 | 12.3\% |
| Nebraska | 54,821 | 128,208 | 42.8 | 48 | 57,068 | 129,298 | 44.1 | 47 | 1.3 | 4.1\% |
| Nevada | 117,647 | 184,216 | 63.9 | 7 | 114,691 | 184,484 | 62.2 | 11 | -1.7 | -2.5\% |
| New Hampshire | 15,454 | 37,599 | 41.1 | 50 | 15,513 | 35,389 | 43.8 | 48 | 2.7 | 0.4\% |
| New Jersey | 273,212 | 459,992 | 59.4 | 19 | 267,998 | 453,791 | 59.1 | 21 | -0.3 | -1.9\% |
| New Mexico | 131,451 | 187,055 | 70.3 | 2 | 128,556 | 183,284 | 70.1 | 2 | -0.2 | -2.2\% |
| New York | 661,178 | 1,272,502 | 52.0 | 35 | 717,607 | 1,384,373 | 51.8 | 36 | -0.2 | 8.5\% |
| North Carolina | 403,442 | 690,988 | 58.4 | 24 | 397,039 | 681,966 | 58.2 | 24 | -0.2 | -1.6\% |
| North Dakota | 16,729 | 33,752 | 49.6 | 42 | 17,351 | 34,236 | 50.7 | 41 | 1.1 | 3.7\% |
| Ohio | 376,196 | 671,182 | 56.0 | 27 | 373,380 | 658,813 | 56.7 | 27 | 0.7 | -0.7\% |
| Oklahoma | 192,783 | 330,049 | 58.4 | 23 | 188,879 | 326,695 | 57.8 | 25 | -0.6 | -2.0\% |
| Oregon | 119,181 | 221,569 | 53.8 | 31 | 118,377 | 215,096 | 55.0 | 31 | 1.2 | -0.7\% |
| Pennsylvania | 340,219 | 680,569 | 50.0 | 41 | 352,458 | 688,140 | 51.2 | 39 | 1.2 | 3.6\% |
| Rhode Island | 28,624 | 54,213 | 52.8 | 32 | 27,672 | 52,702 | 52.5 | 34 | -0.3 | -3.3\% |
| South Carolina | 232,152 | 372,439 | 62.3 | 11 | 231,515 | 368,719 | 62.8 | 9 | 0.5 | -0.3\% |
| South Dakota | 23,899 | 51,826 | 46.1 | 44 | 23,007 | 49,649 | 46.3 | 45 | 0.2 | -3.7\% |
| Tennessee | 337,694 | 519,712 | 65.0 | 6 | 333,413 | 515,934 | 64.6 | 7 | -0.4 | -1.3\% |
| Texas | 1,635,462 | 2,602,181 | 62.8 | 10 | 1,670,472 | 2,666,261 | 62.7 | 10 | -0.1 | 2.1\% |
| Utah | 67,776 | 171,323 | 39.6 | 51 | 65,572 | 166,263 | 39.4 | 51 | -0.2 | -3.3\% |
| Vermont | 18,252 | 27,583 | 66.2 | 4 | 18,922 | 27,224 | 69.5 | 3 | 3.3 | 3.7\% |
| Virginia | 262,364 | 442,592 | 59.3 | 21 | 280,210 | 457,822 | 61.2 | 14 | 1.9 | 6.8\% |
| Washington | 166,173 | 365,100 | 45.5 | 45 | 166,162 | 354,622 | 46.9 | 44 | 1.4 | 0.0\% |
| West Virginia | 119,765 | 140,476 | 85.3 | 1 | 122,378 | 146,284 | 83.7 | 1 | -1.6 | 2.2\% |
| Wisconsin | 151,296 | 292,689 | 51.7 | 36 | 150,866 | 287,665 | 52.4 | 35 | 0.7 | -0.3\% |
| Wyoming | 11,738 | 26,716 | 43.9 | 46 | 11,773 | 25,542 | 46.1 | 46 | 2.2 | 0.3\% |
| TOTAL | 12,303,493 | 21,707,056 | 56.7 |  | 12,452,485 21 | 21,846,422 | 57.0 |  | 0.3 | 1.2\% |

${ }^{1}$ The 2016-2017 school year participation data in this report do not match the 2016-2017 data in the previous School Breakfast Scorecard released in 2018, due to a revision in the attendance factor FRAC uses to adjust the average daily participation numbers in breakfast and lunch. In previous releases of the School Breakfast Scorecard, FRAC used an attendance factor of 0.938 , but after consultation with USDA, this report uses an attendance factor of 0.927 for both the 2016-2017 school year and the 2017-2018 school year.

Table 2:
School Participation in School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast (SBP), School Years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018

| State | School Year 2016-2017 |  |  |  | School Year 2017-2018 |  |  |  | Percent Change in Number of SBP Schools |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SBP <br> Schools | NSLP <br> Schools | SBP Schools as \% of NSLP Schools | Rank Among States | SBP <br> Schools | NSLP Schools | SBP Schools as \% of NSLP Schools | Rank Among States |  |
| Alabama | 1,437 | 1,478 | 97.2\% | 14 | 1,435 | 1,477 | 97.2\% | 17 | -0.1\% |
| Alaska | 387 | 436 | 88.8\% | 41 | 405 | 437 | 92.7\% | 34 | 4.7\% |
| Arizona | 1,701 | 1,801 | 94.4\% | 24 | 1,724 | 1,815 | 95.0\% | 25 | 1.4\% |
| Arkansas | 1,053 | 1,054 | 99.9\% | 2 | 1,080 | 1,091 | 99.0\% | 5 | 2.6\% |
| California | 8,880 | 9,967 | 89.1\% | 39 | 8,867 | 9,698 | 91.4\% | 36 | -0.1\% |
| Colorado | 1,455 | 1,730 | 84.1\% | 47 | 1,489 | 1,749 | 85.1\% | 46 | 2.3\% |
| Connecticut | 886 | 1,045 | 84.8\% | 45 | 879 | 1,031 | 85.3\% | 45 | -0.8\% |
| Delaware | 263 | 264 | 99.6\% | 4 | 248 | 249 | 99.6\% | 3 | -5.7\% |
| District of Columbia | 206 | 223 | 92.4\% | 31 | 229 | 231 | 99.1\% | 4 | 11.2\% |
| Florida | 3,783 | 3,835 | 98.6\% | 6 | 3,866 | 3,920 | 98.6\% | 8 | 2.2\% |
| Georgia | 2,312 | 2,379 | 97.2\% | 15 | 2,313 | 2,380 | 97.2\% | 16 | 0.0\% |
| Hawaii | 285 | 292 | 97.6\% | 13 | 285 | 293 | 97.3\% | 15 | 0.0\% |
| Idaho | 669 | 698 | 95.8\% | 18 | 663 | 692 | 95.8\% | 22 | -0.9\% |
| Illinois | 3,399 | 4,094 | 83.0\% | 49 | 3,393 | 4,036 | 84.1\% | 48 | -0.2\% |
| Indiana | 1,945 | 2,142 | 90.8\% | 36 | 1,945 | 2,132 | 91.2\% | 39 | 0.0\% |
| lowa | 1,301 | 1,399 | 93.0\% | 30 | 1,281 | 1,375 | 93.2\% | 33 | -1.5\% |
| Kansas | 1,391 | 1,485 | 93.7\% | 27 | 1,267 | 1,353 | 93.6\% | 29 | -8.9\% |
| Kentucky | 1,294 | 1,359 | 95.2\% | 21 | 1,269 | 1,300 | 97.6\% | 13 | -1.9\% |
| Louisiana | 1,455 | 1,527 | 95.3\% | 20 | 1,450 | 1,526 | 95.0\% | 24 | -0.3\% |
| Maine | 594 | 616 | 96.4\% | 16 | 591 | 610 | 96.9\% | 19 | -0.5\% |
| Maryland | 1,468 | 1,489 | 98.6\% | 8 | 1,462 | 1,483 | 98.6\% | 9 | -0.4\% |
| Massachusetts | 1,813 | 2,179 | 83.2\% | 48 | 1,834 | 2,171 | 84.5\% | 47 | 1.2\% |
| Michigan | 3,050 | 3,331 | 91.6\% | 32 | 3,021 | 3,301 | 91.5\% | 35 | -1.0\% |
| Minnesota | 1,765 | 2,013 | 87.7\% | 42 | 1,753 | 1,993 | 88.0\% | 43 | -0.7\% |
| Mississippi | 859 | 907 | 94.7\% | 23 | 868 | 908 | 95.6\% | 23 | 1.0\% |
| Missouri | 2,307 | 2,477 | 93.1\% | 29 | 2,302 | 2,460 | 93.6\% | 31 | -0.2\% |
| Montana | 731 | 815 | 89.7\% | 37 | 734 | 804 | 91.3\% | 38 | 0.4\% |
| Nebraska | 777 | 923 | 84.2\% | 46 | 775 | 928 | 83.5\% | 49 | -0.3\% |
| Nevada | 573 | 604 | 94.9\% | 22 | 583 | 623 | 93.6\% | 30 | 1.7\% |
| New Hampshire | 404 | 443 | 91.2\% | 35 | 400 | 438 | 91.3\% | 37 | -1.0\% |
| New Jersey | 2,150 | 2,641 | 81.4\% | 50 | 2,172 | 2,630 | 82.6\% | 51 | 1.0\% |
| New Mexico | 848 | 898 | 94.4\% | 25 | 861 | 893 | 96.4\% | 20 | 1.5\% |
| New York | 5,623 | 5,997 | 93.8\% | 26 | 5,563 | 5,864 | 94.9\% | 26 | -1.1\% |
| North Carolina | 2,525 | 2,560 | 98.6\% | 7 | 2,538 | 2,571 | 98.7\% | 7 | 0.5\% |
| North Dakota | 366 | 409 | 89.5\% | 38 | 364 | 410 | 88.8\% | 41 | -0.5\% |
| Ohio | 3,208 | 3,665 | 87.5\% | 43 | 3,247 | 3,674 | 88.4\% | 42 | 1.2\% |
| Oklahoma | 1,817 | 1,859 | 97.7\% | 12 | 1,779 | 1,807 | 98.5\% | 11 | -2.1\% |
| Oregon | 1,266 | 1,325 | 95.5\% | 19 | 1,275 | 1,325 | 96.2\% | 21 | 0.7\% |
| Pennsylvania | 3,170 | 3,476 | 91.2\% | 34 | 3,215 | 3,442 | 93.4\% | 32 | 1.4\% |
| Rhode Island | 369 | 375 | 98.4\% | 10 | 357 | 368 | 97.0\% | 18 | -3.3\% |
| South Carolina | 1,190 | 1,192 | 99.8\% | 3 | 1,188 | 1,191 | 99.7\% | 2 | -0.2\% |
| South Dakota | 738 | 852 | 86.6\% | 44 | 613 | 711 | 86.2\% | 44 | -16.9\% |
| Tennessee | 1,758 | 1,788 | 98.3\% | 11 | 1,815 | 1,843 | 98.5\% | 10 | 3.2\% |
| Texas | 8,425 | 8,408 | 100.2\% | 1 | 7,853 | 7,872 | 99.8\% | 1 | -6.8\% |
| Utah | 853 | 961 | 88.8\% | 40 | 867 | 968 | 89.6\% | 40 | 1.6\% |
| Vermont | 321 | 333 | 96.4\% | 17 | 338 | 347 | 97.4\% | 14 | 5.3\% |
| Virginia | 1,935 | 1,964 | 98.5\% | 9 | 1,945 | 1,983 | 98.1\% | 12 | 0.5\% |
| Washington | 1,875 | 2,007 | 93.4\% | 28 | 1,920 | 2,032 | 94.5\% | 27 | 2.4\% |
| West Virginia | 730 | 738 | 98.9\% | 5 | 722 | 730 | 98.9\% | 6 | -1.1\% |
| Wisconsin | 1,979 | 2,433 | 81.3\% | 51 | 2,034 | 2,456 | 82.8\% | 50 | 2.8\% |
| Wyoming | 289 | 316 | 91.5\% | 33 | 300 | 318 | 94.3\% | 28 | 3.8\% |
| TOTAL | 89,878 | 97,202 | 92.5\% |  | 89,377 | 95,939 | 93.2\% |  | -0.6\% |

Table 3:
Average Daily Student Participation in School Breakfast Program (SBP),
School Year 2017-2018

| State | Free (F) SBP Students |  | Reduced Price (RP) SBP Students |  | Total FRRP SBP Students |  | Paid SBP Students |  | Total SBP Students |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |  |
| Alabama | 216,384 | 81.1\% | 11,365 | 4.3\% | 227,749 | 85.4\% | 39,066 | 14.6\% | 266,815 |
| Alaska | 21,946 | 81.9\% | 1,037 | 3.9\% | 22,984 | 85.8\% | 3,812 | 14.2\% | 26,796 |
| Arizona | 248,707 | 79.2\% | 20,586 | 6.6\% | 269,293 | 85.8\% | 44,566 | 14.2\% | 313,860 |
| Arkansas | 141,826 | 74.9\% | 16,051 | 8.5\% | 157,877 | 83.4\% | 31,375 | 16.6\% | 189,252 |
| California | 1,303,524 | 76.4\% | 148,390 | 8.7\% | 1,451,915 | 85.1\% | 254,141 | 14.9\% | 1,706,056 |
| Colorado | 122,174 | 67.4\% | 19,857 | 10.9\% | 142,030 | 78.3\% | 39,333 | 21.7\% | 181,364 |
| Connecticut | 87,953 | 81.7\% | 3,876 | 3.6\% | 91,829 | 85.3\% | 15,820 | 14.7\% | 107,649 |
| Delaware | 40,800 | 76.7\% | 1,178 | 2.2\% | 41,979 | 78.9\% | 11,214 | 21.1\% | 53,193 |
| District of Columbia | 32,009 | 85.3\% | 307 | 0.8\% | 32,317 | 86.1\% | 5,219 | 13.9\% | 37,536 |
| Florida | 771,275 | 88.3\% | 20,910 | 2.4\% | 792,185 | 90.7\% | 81,382 | 9.3\% | 873,567 |
| Georgia | 521,373 | 80.9\% | 32,609 | 5.1\% | 553,981 | 86.0\% | 90,193 | 14.0\% | 644,174 |
| Hawaii | 23,632 | 72.3\% | 2,539 | 7.8\% | 26,170 | 80.1\% | 6,512 | 19.9\% | 32,683 |
| Idaho | 48,325 | 63.9\% | 6,631 | 8.8\% | 54,956 | 72.7\% | 20,637 | 27.3\% | 75,593 |
| Illinois | 403,456 | 91.8\% | 7,187 | 1.6\% | 410,643 | 93.5\% | 28,622 | 6.5\% | 439,265 |
| Indiana | 212,964 | 75.4\% | 20,641 | 7.3\% | 233,605 | 82.7\% | 48,933 | 17.3\% | 282,538 |
| lowa | 73,716 | 72.1\% | 6,710 | 6.6\% | 80,426 | 78.6\% | 21,886 | 21.4\% | 102,311 |
| Kansas | 84,918 | 71.7\% | 11,949 | 10.1\% | 96,866 | 81.8\% | 21,606 | 18.2\% | 118,472 |
| Kentucky | 280,810 | 88.6\% | 3,163 | 1.0\% | 283,974 | 89.6\% | 32,935 | 10.4\% | 316,908 |
| Louisiana | 274,720 | 91.0\% | 5,019 | 1.7\% | 279,739 | 92.7\% | 22,097 | 7.3\% | 301,836 |
| Maine | 32,855 | 65.5\% | 3,948 | 7.9\% | 36,802 | 73.3\% | 13,388 | 26.7\% | 50,190 |
| Maryland | 175,560 | 66.0\% | 20,215 | 7.6\% | 195,775 | 73.6\% | 70,336 | 26.4\% | 266,111 |
| Massachusetts | 180,829 | 86.0\% | 5,918 | 2.8\% | 186,747 | 88.8\% | 23,574 | 11.2\% | 210,321 |
| Michigan | 314,084 | 78.9\% | 17,892 | 4.5\% | 331,976 | 83.4\% | 66,025 | 16.6\% | 398,001 |
| Minnesota | 132,948 | 56.0\% | 25,622 | 10.8\% | 158,570 | 66.7\% | 79,012 | 33.3\% | 237,583 |
| Mississippi | 176,180 | 87.7\% | 9,088 | 4.5\% | 185,268 | 92.3\% | 15,542 | 7.7\% | 200,809 |
| Missouri | 206,101 | 71.5\% | 20,373 | 7.1\% | 226,474 | 78.6\% | 61,814 | 21.4\% | 288,288 |
| Montana | 27,232 | 71.4\% | 2,246 | 5.9\% | 29,479 | 77.3\% | 8,666 | 22.7\% | 38,144 |
| Nebraska | 48,683 | 60.8\% | 8,385 | 10.5\% | 57,068 | 71.2\% | 23,033 | 28.8\% | 80,101 |
| Nevada | 104,878 | 77.1\% | 9,813 | 7.2\% | 114,691 | 84.3\% | 21,301 | 15.7\% | 135,992 |
| New Hampshire | 13,887 | 64.1\% | 1,626 | 7.5\% | 15,513 | 71.6\% | 6,149 | 28.4\% | 21,663 |
| New Jersey | 250,190 | 77.1\% | 17,808 | 5.5\% | 267,998 | 82.6\% | 56,370 | 17.4\% | 324,368 |
| New Mexico | 124,799 | 84.5\% | 3,756 | 2.5\% | 128,556 | 87.1\% | 19,063 | 12.9\% | 147,618 |
| New York | 702,735 | 90.8\% | 14,872 | 1.9\% | 717,607 | 92.7\% | 56,700 | 7.3\% | 774,306 |
| North Carolina | 374,944 | 81.8\% | 22,095 | 4.8\% | 397,039 | 86.6\% | 61,532 | 13.4\% | 458,572 |
| North Dakota | 14,908 | 53.5\% | 2,443 | 8.8\% | 17,351 | 62.3\% | 10,507 | 37.7\% | 27,858 |
| Ohio | 352,848 | 78.4\% | 20,532 | 4.6\% | 373,380 | 83.0\% | 76,440 | 17.0\% | 449,820 |
| Oklahoma | 173,535 | 75.5\% | 15,344 | 6.7\% | 188,879 | 82.2\% | 40,834 | 17.8\% | 229,713 |
| Oregon | 108,681 | 74.0\% | 9,696 | 6.6\% | 118,377 | 80.6\% | 28,559 | 19.4\% | 146,936 |
| Pennsylvania | 341,880 | 84.7\% | 10,578 | 2.6\% | 352,458 | 87.3\% | 51,214 | 12.7\% | 403,672 |
| Rhode Island | 25,956 | 76.6\% | 1,715 | 5.1\% | 27,672 | 81.6\% | 6,225 | 18.4\% | 33,897 |
| South Carolina | 221,793 | 82.6\% | 9,722 | 3.6\% | 231,515 | 86.2\% | 36,952 | 13.8\% | 268,467 |
| South Dakota | 20,883 | 72.2\% | 2,124 | 7.3\% | 23,007 | 79.5\% | 5,928 | 20.5\% | 28,935 |
| Tennessee | 319,061 | 82.4\% | 14,351 | 3.7\% | 333,413 | 86.1\% | 53,920 | 13.9\% | 387,332 |
| Texas | 1,585,090 | 82.9\% | 85,382 | 4.5\% | 1,670,472 | 87.3\% | 242,293 | 12.7\% | 1,912,765 |
| Utah | 56,885 | 66.2\% | 8,687 | 10.1\% | 65,572 | 76.3\% | 20,353 | 23.7\% | 85,925 |
| Vermont | 16,611 | 65.3\% | 2,311 | 9.1\% | 18,922 | 74.3\% | 6,531 | 25.7\% | 25,453 |
| Virginia | 255,807 | 72.9\% | 24,402 | 7.0\% | 280,210 | 79.8\% | 70,745 | 20.2\% | 350,955 |
| Washington | 145,578 | 73.1\% | 20,584 | 10.3\% | 166,162 | 83.4\% | 33,085 | 16.6\% | 199,247 |
| West Virginia | 120,116 | 80.2\% | 2,261 | 1.5\% | 122,378 | 81.8\% | 27,308 | 18.2\% | 149,686 |
| Wisconsin | 141,039 | 73.8\% | 9,827 | 5.1\% | 150,866 | 78.9\% | 40,265 | 21.1\% | 191,130 |
| Wyoming | 9,831 | 60.1\% | 1,942 | 11.9\% | 11,773 | 72.0\% | 4,578 | 28.0\% | 16,351 |
| TOTAL | 11,686,921 | 80.0\% | 765,564 | 5.2\% | 12,452,485 | 85.2\% | 2,157,591 | 14.8\% | 14,610,076 |

Table 4:
Additional Participation and Funding if 70 Low-Income Students Were Served School Breakfast (SBP) Per 100 Served School Lunch (NSLP), School Year 2017-2018

| State | Actual Total Free \& Reduced Price (F\&RP) SBP Students | F\&RP Students in SBP per 100 in NSLP | Total FRRP Students if 70 SBP per 100 NSLP | Additional F\&RP Students if 70 SBP per 100 NSLP | Additional Annual Funding if 70 SBP per 100 NSLP F\&RP Students |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alabama | 227,749 | 59.7 | 267,106 | 39,357 | \$11,173,901 |
| Alaska | 22,984 | 55.2 | 29,170 | 6,186 | \$1,757,833 |
| Arizona | 269,293 | 55.1 | 342,171 | 72,878 | \$20,595,936 |
| Arkansas | 157,877 | 65.7 | 168,202 | 10,326 | \$2,905,312 |
| California | 1,451,915 | 56.2 | 1,807,912 | 355,997 | \$100,157,873 |
| Colorado | 142,030 | 60.4 | 164,600 | 22,570 | \$6,308,147 |
| Connecticut | 91,829 | 51.4 | 124,971 | 33,142 | \$9,422,009 |
| Delaware | 41,979 | 62.8 | 46,781 | 4,803 | \$1,368,761 |
| District of Columbia | 32,317 | 67.7 | 33,395 | 1,078 | \$308,330 |
| Florida | 792,185 | 51.2 | 1,083,963 | 291,778 | \$83,176,075 |
| Georgia | 553,981 | 60.1 | 645,526 | 91,545 | \$25,950,346 |
| Hawaii | 26,170 | 39.7 | 46,107 | 19,937 | \$5,614,166 |
| Idaho | 54,956 | 57.0 | 67,543 | 12,587 | \$3,529,904 |
| Illinois | 410,643 | 49.7 | 578,097 | 167,454 | \$47,808,452 |
| Indiana | 233,605 | 51.2 | 319,192 | 85,587 | \$24,137,489 |
| Iowa | 80,426 | 43.7 | 128,918 | 48,493 | \$13,687,853 |
| Kansas | 96,866 | 50.0 | 135,722 | 38,855 | \$10,891,396 |
| Kentucky | 283,974 | 66.0 | 301,297 | 17,324 | \$4,951,363 |
| Louisiana | 279,739 | 60.8 | 322,274 | 42,535 | \$12,142,996 |
| Maine | 36,802 | 61.5 | 41,912 | 5,110 | \$1,436,272 |
| Maryland | 195,775 | 62.1 | 220,603 | 24,828 | \$6,983,851 |
| Massachusetts | 186,747 | 53.8 | 243,032 | 56,285 | \$16,030,401 |
| Michigan | 331,976 | 58.9 | 394,340 | 62,364 | \$17,693,603 |
| Minnesota | 158,570 | 54.8 | 202,713 | 44,143 | \$12,290,739 |
| Mississippi | 185,268 | 60.1 | 215,777 | 30,509 | \$8,663,203 |
| Missouri | 226,474 | 60.9 | 260,166 | 33,692 | \$9,499,273 |
| Montana | 29,479 | 58.9 | 35,028 | 5,550 | \$1,568,510 |
| Nebraska | 57,068 | 44.1 | 90,509 | 33,441 | \$9,334,901 |
| Nevada | 114,691 | 62.2 | 129,139 | 14,447 | \$4,076,514 |
| New Hampshire | 15,513 | 43.8 | 24,773 | 9,259 | \$2,603,842 |
| New Jersey | 267,998 | 59.1 | 317,654 | 49,656 | \$14,057,614 |
| New Mexico | 128,556 | 70.1 | 128,299 | Met Goal | Met Goal |
| New York | 717,607 | 51.8 | 969,061 | 251,455 | \$71,751,180 |
| North Carolina | 397,039 | 58.2 | 477,376 | 80,337 | \$22,785,880 |
| North Dakota | 17,351 | 50.7 | 23,965 | 6,615 | \$1,848,463 |
| Ohio | 373,380 | 56.7 | 461,169 | 87,789 | \$24,902,378 |
| Oklahoma | 188,879 | 57.8 | 228,687 | 39,808 | \$11,240,719 |
| Oregon | 118,377 | 55.0 | 150,567 | 32,190 | \$9,088,529 |
| Pennsylvania | 352,458 | 51.2 | 481,698 | 129,240 | \$36,819,052 |
| Rhode Island | 27,672 | 52.5 | 36,892 | 9,220 | \$2,612,112 |
| South Carolina | 231,515 | 62.8 | 258,104 | 26,589 | \$7,559,160 |
| South Dakota | 23,007 | 46.3 | 34,754 | 11,747 | \$3,310,765 |
| Tennessee | 333,413 | 64.6 | 361,154 | 27,741 | \$7,885,353 |
| Texas | 1,670,472 | 62.7 | 1,866,383 | 195,911 | \$55,609,931 |
| Utah | 65,572 | 39.4 | 116,384 | 50,812 | \$14,220,121 |
| Vermont | 18,922 | 69.5 | 19,056 | 134 | \$37,633 |
| Virginia | 280,210 | 61.2 | 320,475 | 40,266 | \$11,358,474 |
| Washington | 166,162 | 46.9 | 248,236 | 82,074 | \$23,003,750 |
| West Virginia | 122,378 | 83.7 | 102,399 | Met Goal | Met Goal |
| Wisconsin | 150,866 | 52.4 | 201,366 | 50,500 | \$14,299,807 |
| Wyoming | 11,773 | 46.1 | 17,879 | 6,106 | \$1,699,166 |
| TOTAL | 12,452,485 | 57.0 | 15,292,495 | 2,840,010 | \$804,699,574 |

## Resources

## For more information, check out the following FRAC resources:

## School Breakfast Program

■ Breakfast for Learning, Breakfast for Health, and The Connections Between Food Insecurity, the Federal Nutrition Programs, and Student Behavior

- How It Works: Making Breakfast Part of the School Day

How to Start a Breakfast After the Bell Program

FRAC Facts: Offering Free Breakfast to all Students

## Educator Resources for School Breakfast

Start the School Day Ready to Learn With Breakfast in the Classroom - Principals Share What Works (FRAC and NAESP)

School Breakfast After the Bell: Equipping Students for Academic Success - Secondary Principals Share What Works (FRAC and NASSP)

Secondary School Principals' Breakfast After the Bell Toolkit (FRAC and NASSP)

- Breakfast Blueprint: Breakfast After the Bell Programs Support Learning (FRAC and AFT)

Breakfast for Learning Education Alliance

## Community Eligibility

- FRAC Facts: Community Eligibility Provision

Community Eligibility: Making it Work With Lower ISPs

- An Advocate's Guide to Promoting Community Eligibility
- Direct Certification Improves Low-Income Student Access to School Meals: An Updated Guide to Direct Certification


## State School Breakfast Legislation

- School Meals Legislation Chart

■ State School Breakfast Expansion Legislation Table

- State Breakfast Legislation: Combining Breakfast After the Bell With Offering it at No Charge to All Students

Food Research \& Action Center

Food Research \& Action Center
1200 18th Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036
@fractweets
(ن) @fracgram
facebook.com/
foodresearchandactioncenter
linkedin.com/company/
food-research-and-action-center


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Food Research \& Action Center. (2016). Breakfast for Learning. Available at: http://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/breakfastforlearning-1.pdf. Accessed on November 30, 2018.
    ${ }^{2}$ Food Research \& Action Center. (2016). Breakfast for Health. Available at: http://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/breakfastforhealth-1.pdf. Accessed on November 30, 2018.
    ${ }^{3}$ Food Research \& Action Center. (2018). The Connections Between Food Insecurity, the Federal Nutrition Programs, and Student Behavior. Available at: http://www.frac.org/wp-content/uploads/breakfast-for-behavior.pdf. Accessed on November 30, 2018.

[^1]:    ${ }^{4}$ The 2016-2017 school year participation data in this report do not match the 2016-2017 data in the previous School Breakfast Scorecard released in 2018, due to a revision in the attendance factor FRAC uses to adjust the average daily participation numbers in breakfast and lunch. In previous releases of the School Breakfast Scorecard, FRAC used an attendance factor of 0.938 , but after consultation with USDA, this report uses an attendance factor of 0.927 for both the 2016-2017 school year and the 2017-2018 school year.

[^2]:    ${ }^{5}$ Food Research \& Action Center. (2018). Community Eligibility Database, May 2018. Available at: http://frac.org/community-eligibility-database. Accessed on November 27, 2018.

