Reducing Childhood Hunger with the School Breakfast Program: Maryland's Report Card

2012-2013



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Introduction

A strong School Breakfast Program is a key strategy in ending childhood hunger as well as ensuring that students start the school day ready to learn. Unfortunately, Maryland ranks just above average in getting this important meal to children, earning a "C+" for low-income student participation in the School Breakfast Program. During the 2012-2013 school year, just 56.5 percent of the low-income children in Maryland who participated in the National School Lunch Program also participated in the School Breakfast Program.¹ While this represents an increase from previous years, it remains well below an achievable goal of 70 percent—a goal that was met by Kent, Somerset, Dorchester, and Garrett counties in the 2012-2013 school year.

Progress is being made in Maryland (see figure 1), but it must come at a faster pace, especially given the high rate of food insecurity that continues to plague Maryland and the entire country. Thirteen percent—or one in eight—Maryland households were food insecure, on average, during the 2011 to 2013 period.² The School Breakfast Program reduces food insecurity, which the U.S. Department of Agriculture defines as the lack of consistent access to adequate food necessary for a healthy life.^{3 4} The School Breakfast Program also results in many additional positive outcomes for students. Research demonstrates that children who participate in the School Breakfast Program are better able to learn, exhibit better behavior at school, consume a healthier overall diet, demonstrate improved academic performance, and are less likely to be late to or absent from school.⁵

Maryland gets a "B" for efforts to increase school breakfast participation, thanks to the Maryland Meals for Achievement Program and the implementation of the Community Eligibility Provision. MMFA (Maryland Meals for Achievement) is a state-funded program that helps high-poverty schools offer Breakfast in the Classroom to all students — a strategy that's proven to increase participation.

Far too often, children miss out on school breakfast for very simple reasons: a late-arriving school bus, tight morning schedules, and long cafeteria lines. Sometimes children aren't hungry first thing in the morning or feel peer pressure to socialize or play instead of eating breakfast at school. Stigma also can play a part: children see cafeteria-based school breakfast as something that's just for poor children. Serving breakfast in the classroom at the beginning of the school day erases these barriers and leads to more children starting the day with a healthy morning meal. Similarly, the CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) is a federal funding option that allows high-poverty schools to offer both breakfast and lunch at no cost to all students.

Since both MMFA (Maryland Meals for Achievement) and CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) have been proven to significantly increase participation in the School Breakfast Program, Maryland is encouraged to embrace the following recommendations to achieve the goal of ending childhood hunger.

¹ "Low-income students" are those that quality for free or reduced price school meals as a result of their household income.

² Coleman-Jensen, Alisha, Mark Nord, and Anita Singh. "Household Food Insecurity in the United States in 2012." Economic Research Service, September 2013. Retrieved from www.ers.usda.gov/publications/err-economic-research-report/err155.aspx#.U_Ns8_ldX7w

³ Bartfeld, Judith S. and Hong-Min Ahn. "The School Breakfast Program Strengthens Household Food Security among Low-Income Households with Elementary School Children." Journal of Nutrition, March 2011. Retrieved from http://jn.nutrition.org/content/141/3/470.full.pdf+html

⁴ USDA Economic Research Service. "Food and Nutrition Assistance Overview." Retrieved from http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance food-security-in-the-us.aspx

⁵ Food Research and Action Center. "Breakfast for Health." Retrieved from http://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/breakfastforhealth

Low-Income Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program is Increasing in Maryland

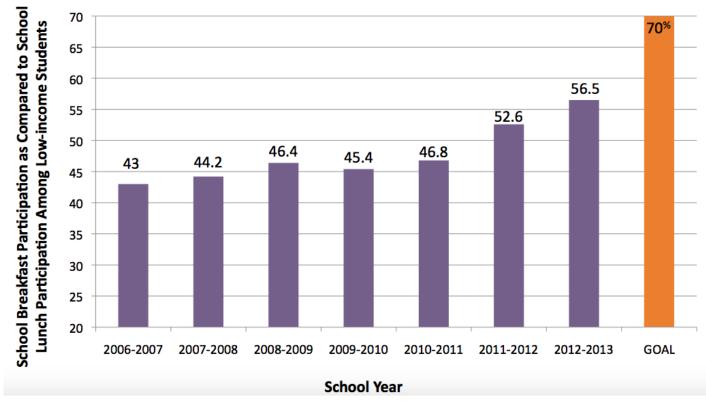


Figure 1. Low-income student participation in the School Breakfast Program as compared to the National School Lunch Program in Maryland.

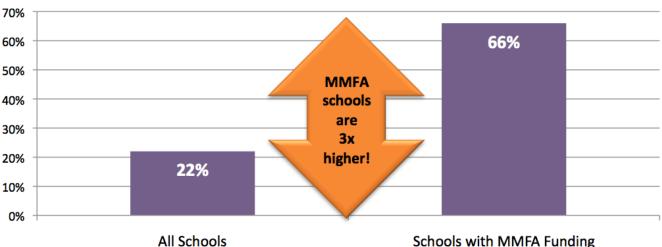
Recommendation #1

Expand Breakfast in the Classroom and Maryland Meals for Achievement

Schools that switch from the traditional school breakfast model (served in the cafeteria before the school day) to a Breakfast in the Classroom model experience dramatic increases in school breakfast participation, as well as improved school attendance and student behavior.⁶ One avenue to fund Breakfast in the Classroom is Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA). This state funding supports high-poverty schools that implement universal, free Breakfast in the Classroom. Hundreds of Maryland schools have increased participation in the School Breakfast Program with the help of MMFA.

Students at schools with Breakfast in the Classroom funding from MMFA benefit from significantly higher breakfast participation rates (see figure 2). In 2012-2013, just 22 percent of Maryland students in all schools participated in the School Breakfast Program. However, in MMFA schools, 66 percent of all students participated and therefore started the school day ready to learn.

While over 800 schools met the eligibility criteria for MMFA (more than 40 percent of students are low-income) in the 2012-2013 school year, available funding only allowed for 286 schools, or 34 percent of those eligible, to participate. Maryland must expand funding for this successful program so that all low-income students can benefit.



Percentage of All Students Participating in the School Breakfast Program

Figure 2. Percentage of all students participating in the School Breakfast Program in all Maryland schools compared to Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) schools.

⁶ Food Research and Action Center. "Breakfast for Learning." Retrieved from http://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/breakfastforlearning.pdf gov/2014RS/bills/sb/sb0128f.pdf

Recommendation #2

Create Hunger-Free Schools with the Community Eligibility Provision

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) allows schools to use federal funding to provide free school breakfast and lunch to all students—essentially becoming Hunger-Free Schools. Schools can use this new tool to reduce childhood hunger and increase school breakfast participation. In fact, school breakfast participation increases by an average of 25 percent in schools that elect CEP.⁷

Authorized by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, CEP simplifies administrative processes, reduces labor costs for schools, and improves efficiency by eliminating free and reduced-price meal applications, which can be confusing for families and burdensome for schools to collect and process. Instead, schools are reimbursed through a formula based on the number of "identified students" that are in foster care or Head Start, are homeless, migrant or living in households that receive assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or the Food Distribution on Indian Reservation program.

While hundreds of schools in Maryland are eligible to participate in CEP, not many have elected to do so. To expand the use of CEP, Maryland needs to pass legislation that protects school districts from the possibility of losing state compensatory education funding. This state aid is based on the number of students that qualify for free and reduced-price meals. With CEP, schools do not collect this data and therefore risk losing compensatory education funding. Since compensatory education funding from the state can total thousands of dollars per student, some schools are wary of electing CEP due to concern that it may jeopardize this significant source of aid.⁸ In 2014, Senate Bill 128 was proposed to address this, but it did not pass.⁹

While a legislative change is needed, the Maryland State Department of Education continues to work closely with school districts to encourage the use of CEP by addressing the compensatory education concern. As a result, twenty two schools, with more than 7,000 students, elected CEP in the 2014-2015 school year.



Somerset County Public School students celebrate their Hunger-Free Schools.

⁷ Levin, Madeline and Zoë Neuberger. "Community Eligibility: Making High-Poverty Schools Hunger Free." Food Research and Action Center and Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, October 2013. Retrieved from http://frac.org/pdf/community_eligibility_report_2013.pdf

⁸ Maryland State Department of Education. "Major State Aid Calculations for Fiscal Year 2013." Retrieved from http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/msde/divisions/bus_svcs/docs/ MajorStateAidProgFY2013.pdf

⁹ Maryland General Assembly. "Senate Bill 128: Education - Compensatory Education Grants - Federal Community Eligibility Provision." Retrieved from http://mgaleg.maryland

School Breakfast Report Cards

The following "School Breakfast Report Cards" evaluate each of the twenty-four public school systems in Maryland for the 2012-2013 school year. Grades were determined as follows:

- The "low-income student participation in school breakfast" grades were determined by how well each district performed in meeting the goal of having 70 percent of low-income students that participate in the National School Lunch Program also participate in the School Breakfast Program. A student is considered "low income" if their household income is less than 185% of the federal poverty level. (See Grading Rubric.)
- "Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time" graphs progress in attaining the goal of having 70 percent of low-income students that participate in the National School Lunch Program also participating in the School Breakfast Program.
- The "breakfast in the classroom" grade is based on the percentage of all students (from all income levels) participating in the School Breakfast Program in those schools in the district that receive Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) funding. Using data provided by the Maryland State Department of Education, the average number of breakfast meals served was divided by enrollment at schools with Breakfast in the Classroom delivery models funded by MMFA.¹⁰ (See Grading Rubric, on the next page.)

These are not just grades, however, but a measure of how Maryland school systems are doing in the effort to end childhood hunger. We can continue to improve breakfast participation rates by supporting funding for the Maryland Meals for Achievement Program, encouraging more schools to adopt Breakfast in the Classroom, and passing legislation to allow more schools to elect the Community Eligibility Provision.

¹⁰ Maryland State Department of Education. "MMFA School Participation Data." Retrieved from http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/programs/schoolnutrition/docs/MMFA_Data.htm

	Grading Rubric							
	Low Income S Participation in Scho	Breakfast in the Classroom						
Percent of low-income studen in school breakfast as compar- to those who eat school lunch		Rank in low- income student participation in school breakfast	Percent of all students participating in school breakfast at schools with MMFA funding					
A+	>80	# 1-2	>78%					
A	74-79	# 3-4	75-77%					
A-	69-73	# 5-6	72-74%					
B +	66-68	# 7-9	69-71%					
B	64-65	# 10-12	66-68%					
B -	60-63	# 13-15	63-65%					
C+	57-59	57-59 # 16-18						
C	54-56	# 19-21	57-59%					
C-	49-53	# 22-24	54-56%					
Room for Improvement	<50	n/a	0-53%					

SCHOOL BREAKFAS	ST GRADES OVERVIEW
School District	Grade
Allegany County	B
Anne Arundel County	C+
Baltimore City	C+
Baltimore County	C
Calvert County	Room for Improvement
Caroline County	B+
Carroll County	Room for Improvement
Cecil County	B+
Charles County	B
Dorchester County	A
Frederick County	C -
Garrett County	A-
Harford County	Ç
Howard County	Room for Improvement
Kent County	A+
Montgomery County	C-
Prince George's County	Ç
Queen Anne's County	Room for Improvement
St. Mary's County	ß
Somerset County	A +
Talbot County	C
Washington County	A-
Wicomico County	C+
Worcester County	ß
State of Maryland	C+

2012 - 2013 • Allegany County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	B	65.6% of low-income students in Allegany County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.
	B+	Allegany County ranks #8 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time		75 70 65 60.8 60.8 57.0 57 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL
Breakfast in the classroom	A+	 In the ten Allegany County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 79% of students (from all income leve participate in school breakfast.

- Allegany County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by expanding Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - Maryland Meals for Achievement can fund the expansion of Breakfast in the Classroom. While twenty-two schools were eligible for Maryland Meals for Achievement in 2012-2013, just ten, or 45%, participated in this program.
 - When the 70% participation goal is achieved, Allegany County will receive over \$39,000 in additional federal funding
- Allegany County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision, a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Fifteen schools in Allegany County are eligible to elect the Community Eligibility Provision and become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Four of the 15 schools that qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision would receive federal reimbursement at the highest "free meal rate" for 100% of school meals served. These schools include: John Humbird Elementary, Eckhart Alternative Program, South Penn Elementary, and West Side Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • Anne Arundel County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	C+	• 57% of low-income students in Anne Arundel County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast - an impressive 4.8% increase from last school year.
	B-	 Anne Arundel County ranks #14 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time		80 70 50 44.3 46.9 52.2 44.3 46.9 52.2 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL
Breakfast in the classroom	B -	 In the 31 Anne Arundel County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 64% of students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

- Anne Arundel County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by continuing to expand Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - Maryland Meals for Achievement can fund the expansion of Breakfast in the Classroom.
 - This year, 31 schools participated in the Maryland Meals for Achievement program.
 - When the 70% participation goal is achieved, more than 2,000 additional students will benefit and Anne Arundel County will receive \$560,507 in additional federal funding reimbursements.
- Anne Arundel County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision, a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - In Anne Arundel County, fourteen schools are eligible to elect the Community Eligibility Provision and become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Two of these fourteen schools, Georgetown East Elementary and J. Albert Adams Academy, would receive federal reimbursement at the highest "free meal rate" for 100% of school meals served.

2012 - 2013 • Baltimore City

j.		
	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in	C+	• 58.2% of low-income students in Baltimore City that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.
school breakfast	B	 Baltimore City ranks #13 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income	7	30 70 50 56.6 50.5 52.9
lunch participants over time	4	
		20 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL
Breakfast in the classroom	A-	 In Baltimore City schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 74% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

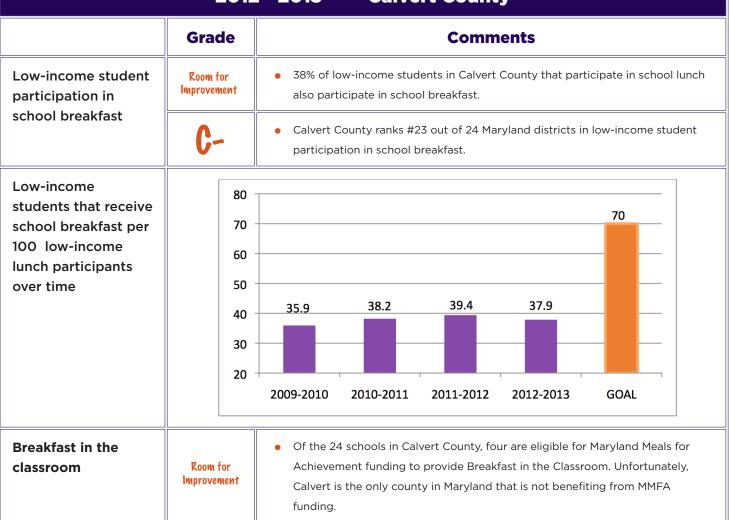
- Provision 2 is a funding option that Baltimore City has elected to provide school breakfast to all students at no cost.
 - City schools can better leverage this federal funding by offering Breakfast in the Classroom for students at more schools.
 - When compared to schools serving breakfast in the cafeteria before the school day begins, Breakfast in the Classroom schools have significantly higher breakfast participation, better attendance rates, and fewer tardy students.
 - When Baltimore City achieves the goal of more than 70% of the low-income students that participate in school lunch also participating in breakfast, more than 5,600 additional students will benefit.
- Baltimore can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision, a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - While all Baltimore City schools are eligible to elect the Community Eligibility Provision, the district is not participating in this program.
 - Alternatively, Baltimore City could also expand their use of Provision 2 to provide both breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students.

2012 - 2013 • Baltimore County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	C	 55% of low-income students in Baltimore County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast - an impressive 6% increase from last school year.
	C+	• Baltimore County ranks #18 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 70 60 50 40 30	70 48.8 43.1 43.1 43.8 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL
Breakfast in the classroom	B	 In the 36 Baltimore County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 66% of all students participate in school breakfast.

- Baltimore County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by continuing to expand Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - Maryland Meals for Achievement can fund the expansion of Breakfast in the Classroom.
 - While 108 schools were eligible for MMFA in 2012-2013, only 36 (33%) participated in this program.
- Baltimore County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Fifteen schools are eligible to become Hunger-Free Schools by electing the CEP in the 2014-2015 school year. In fact, Riverview Elementary School qualifies for CEP at the highest "free meal rate" for 100% of school meals served.

2012 - 2013 • Calvert County



- Calvert County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by implementing Breakfast in the Classroom.
 - None of the schools in Calvert County serve Breakfast in the Classroom, or any of the other alternative breakfast delivery models that are proven to increase breakfast participation.
 - Compared to schools serving breakfast in the cafeteria before the school day begins, Breakfast in the Classroom schools have significantly higher breakfast participation, better attendance rates, and fewer tardy students.
 - Calvert County can increase breakfast participation by utilizing the Maryland Meals for Achievement program to fund Breakfast in the Classroom.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, Calvert County will receive \$193,644 in additional federal funding.

2012 - 2013 • Caroline County

	Grade			Comme	ents	
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	B+	lunch a		n school breakfas	e County that par	
	A-		e County ranks # pation in school I		yland districts in lo	ow-income studer
Low-income students that receive	80 -					
school breakfast per 100 low-income	70 -				67.4	70
lunch participants over time	60 -			57.8		
over time			48.2			
	50 -	44.9				
	40 -					
	30 -					
	20 -					
		2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	GOAL
Breakfast in the		• In the s	seven Caroline Co	ounty schools wi	th Maryland Meals	s for Achievement
classroom	B	funding	g for Breakfast in	the Classroom,	66% of all student	s (from all income

- Caroline County is close to achieving the 70% school breakfast participation goal!
- Caroline County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - In Caroline County, two schools are eligible to elect CEP in the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Both Greensboro Elementary and Federalsburg Elementary are eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools.

2012 - 2013 • Carroll County

	Grade	Comments			
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	Room for Improvement	 46.5% of low-income students in Carroll County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast - an impressive 7.7% increase from the previous school year. 			
	C	Carroll County ranks #21 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.			
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0	70 46.5 36.0 38.8 33.1 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL			
Breakfast in the classroom	B -	 In the four Carroll County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 64% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast. 			

- Carroll County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by expanding Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - The four schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding are the only schools in Carroll County that offer Breakfast in the Classroom.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, 772 additional students will benefit and Carroll County will receive \$209,014 in additional federal funding.
- Carroll County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Three Carroll County schools are eligible to elect CEP in the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Crossroads Middle School, Gateway School, and Taneytown Elementary School are eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools.

2012 - 2013 • Cecil County

	Grade	Comments			
Low-income student participation in	B+	 67.3% of low-income students in Cecil County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast. 			
school breakfast	B+	• Cecil County ranks #7 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.			
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40	67.3 70 66.3 55.9 55.9 50.0 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL			
Breakfast in the classroom	B -	 In the twelve Cecil County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 64% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast. 			

- Cecil County is close to achieving the 70% school breakfast participation goal!
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, Cecil County will receive nearly \$33,000 in additional federal funding.
- Cecil County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students. The following schools are eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools in 2014-2015:
 - Cecil Manor Elementary
 - Elkton Middle
 - Gilpin Manor Elementary
 - Holly Hall Elementary
 - North East Elementary
 - Thomson Estates Elementary

2012 - 2013 • Charles County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	B	 65% of low-income students in Charles County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast – an impressive 13% increase from the previous school year!
	B	• Charles County ranks #10 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0	65.1 70 52.2 52.2 52.2 52.2 52.2 52.2 52.2 52.2
Breakfast in the classroom	B	 In the nine Charles County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 68% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

- Charles County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by continuing to expand Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - Charles County has made significant and steady progress in their school breakfast participation. From 2011-2012 to 2012-2013, school breakfast participation increased nearly 13% the largest increase in participation in the state!
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, Charles County will receive \$83,268 in additional federal funding.
- Charles County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Two schools are eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year: Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary and Eva Turner Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • Dorchester County

	Grade	Comments			
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	A	• 79% of low-income students in Dorchester County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.			
school breaklast	A	• Dorchester County ranks #3 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.			
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	85 80 75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40	79 75 68.0 69.3 68.0 69.3 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013			
Breakfast in the classroom	B	 In the Dorchester County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 67% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast. 			

- Dorchester is one of the four Maryland counties that have met the 70% participation goal for the School Breakfast Program! Keep up the great work!
- One of the reasons for Dorchester's success is their utilization of the Maryland Meals for Achievement program. Eleven of the thirteen schools in the county are eligible for MMFA funding and eight (73%) are participating in the program.
- Dorchester County can further increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Nine schools are eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year. Of these, the following four schools would receive federal reimbursement at the highest "free meal rate" for 100% of school meals served: Choptank Elementary, Judy Hoyer Center, Maple Elementary, and Maces Lane Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • Frederick County

	Grade	Comments			
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	C -	 52% of low-income students in Frederick County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast - an impressive 5% increase from the previous school year. 			
	C	• Frederick County ranks #20 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income studen participation in school breakfast.			
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	7 6 5 4 3	70 70 46.9 46.9 46.9 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL			
Breakfast in the classroom	C-	 In the eight Frederick County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 56% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast. 			

- Frederick County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by continuing to expand Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - Just eight of the eighteen schools eligible for Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom participated in 2012-2013.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, 1,123 additional students will benefit and Frederick County will receive \$301,394 in additional federal funding.
- Frederick County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - In Frederick County, the following five schools are eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year: Heather Ridge High, Heather Ridge Middle, Hillcrest Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Waverley Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • Garrett County

	Grade	Comments			
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	A-	• 72.3% of low-income students in Garrett County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast – a nearly 5% increase from the previous school year.			
	A	 Garrett County ranks #4 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast. 			
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 70 60 50 40 30 20	67.4 72.3 56.7 54.1 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013			
Breakfast in the classroom	B	 In the eight Garrett County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 70% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast. 			

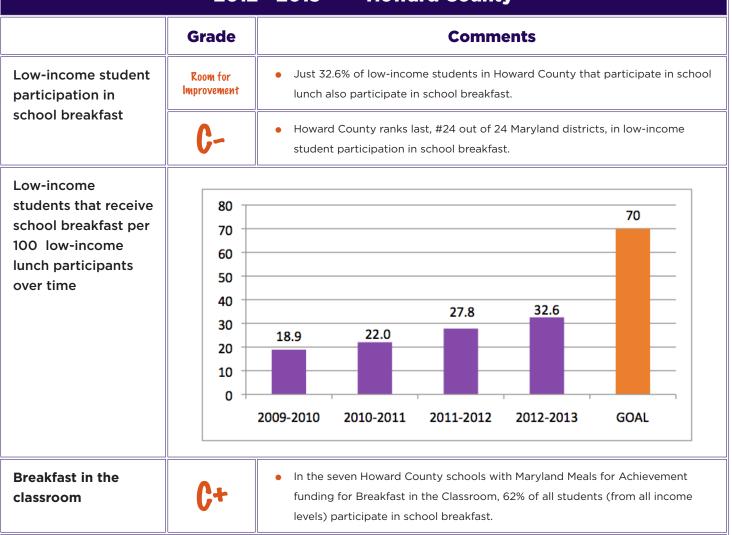
- Garrett is one of the four Maryland counties that have met the 70% participation goal for the School Breakfast Program! Keep up the great work!
- One of the reasons for Garrett's success is their utilization of the Maryland Meals for Achievement program. Ten of the fourteen schools in the county are eligible for MMFA funding and eight (80%) are participating in the program.

2012 - 2013 • Harford County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	C	• 55.6% of low-income students in Harford County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast – a slight decrease in participation as compared to the previous school year.
	B -	Harford County ranks #15 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive	80	70
school breakfast per 100 low-income	70 -	/0
lunch participants	60 -	55.8 55.6
over time	50	47.2 49.3
	40 -	
	30 -	
	20 +	2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL
Breakfast in the classroom	٨-	 In eleven Harford County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement fundin for Breakfast in the Classroom, 73% of all students (from all income levels)

- Harford County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by continuing to expand Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, 1,231 additional students will benefit and Harford County will receive \$343,691 in additional federal funding.
- Harford County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Schools eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools include: The Center for Educational Opportunity, Edgewood Elementary, George D. Lisby Elementary at Hillsdale, Hall's Cross Roads Elementary, Magnolia Elementary, and William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • Howard County



- Howard County can increase participation in school breakfast by continuing to expand the Breakfast in the Classroom program with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, 2,519 additional students will benefit and Howard County will receive \$667,555 in additional federal funding.
- In the 2014-2015 school year, Howard County began implementation of a new Wellness Policy that requires all schools to offer breakfast to all students on a daily basis. In addition, several known barriers to participation in the breakfast program are addressed. For example, the policy includes instructions to schedule sufficient time for students to eat and also addresses the issue of making bus schedules compatible with the breakfast schedule. These policies are sure to result in increased breakfast participation!
- In the 2014-2015 school year, Howard County elected the Community Eligibility Provision, a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students. As a result, Bryant Woods Elementary is now a Hunger-Free School!

2012 - 2013 • Kent County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in	A+	• 88.7% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participat in school breakfast – the highest participation rate in the state!
school breakfast	A+	 Kent County ranks #1 in low-income student participation in school breakfast out of 24 Maryland districts!
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	100 - 95 - 90 - 85 - 80 - 75 - 70 - 65 - 60 - 55 - 50 -	
Breakfast in the classroom	A+	 In the five Kent County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 85% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

- Congratulations to Kent County Public Schools for having the highest school breakfast participation in the state in 2012-2013!
- Kent is one of the four Maryland counties that have met the 70% participation goal for the School Breakfast Program! Keep up the great work!
- One of the reasons for Kent's success is their utilization of the Maryland Meals for Achievement program. Six of the seven schools in the county are eligible for MMFA funding and five (83%) are participating in the program.

2012 - 2013 • Montgomery County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in	C -	 52.8% of low-income students in Montgomery County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.
school breakfast	C	 Montgomery County ranks #19 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 - 70 - 60 - 50 - 40 - 30 - 20 -	70 44.4 45.0 44.4 45.0 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL
Breakfast in the classroom	C	 In the 41 Montgomery County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 58% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

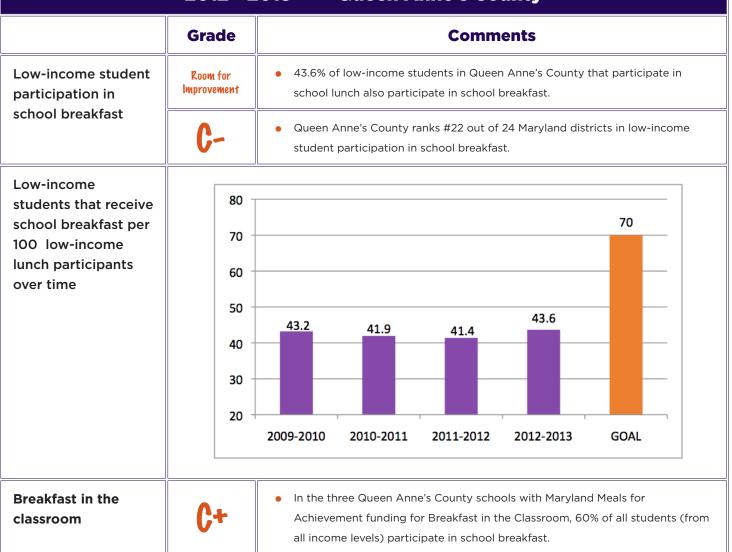
- Montgomery County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by continuing to expand Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in the school lunch program also participate in breakfast, 5,707 additional low-income students will benefit from school breakfast and the county will receive \$1,702,034 in additional federal funding.
- Montgomery County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Schools eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year include: Blair G. Ewing Center, Broad Acres Elementary, Gaithersburg Elementary, New Hampshire Estates Elementary, and South Lake Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • Prince George's County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in school breakfast Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	C	• 55.4% of low-income students in Prince George's County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.
	C+	 Prince George's County ranks #17 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-incom student participation in school breakfast.
	8 7 6 5 4	0 55.4 0 52.7 0 43.1 0 44.3 0 0
	2	2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL

- Prince George's County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by continuing to expand Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - Just 29 of the 162 eligible schools, or 18%, participated in the Maryland Meals for Achievement program, which provides funding for Breakfast in the Classroom.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in the school lunch program also participate in breakfast, 8,463 additional low-income students will benefit from school breakfast and the county will receive \$2,172,591 in additional federal funding.
- Prince George's County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - In Prince George's County, 28 schools, with a total of over 11,000 students, are eligible to elect CEP in the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Schools eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools include: Andrew Jackson Academy, Carmody Hills Elementary, District Heights Elementary, Glassmanor Elementary, H.W. Wheatly Early Childhood Center, Robert R. Gray Elementary, Seat Pleasant Elementary, and Thomas Claggett Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • Queen Anne's County



- Queen Anne's County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by expanding Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in the school lunch program also participate in breakfast, Queen Anne's County will receive \$97,915 in additional federal funding.
- Queen Anne's County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Anchor Point Academy is eligible to become a Hunger-Free School in the 2014-2015 school year.

2012 - 2013 • St. Mary's County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in	B	• 64% of low-income students in St. Mary's County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.
school breakfast	B	• St. Mary's County ranks #11 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income studen participation in school breakfast.
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 - 70 - 60 - 50 - 40 - 30 - 20 -	70 55.2 57.2
Breakfast in the classroom	B	 In St. Mary's County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 66% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

- St. Mary's County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by expanding Breakfast in the Classroom to more schools.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in the school lunch program also participate in breakfast, St. Mary's County will receive \$63,895 in additional federal funding.
- St. Mary's County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - In St. Mary's County, five schools are eligible to elect CEP and could become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year. One of these schools, George Washington Carver Elementary, qualifies for CEP and would receive federal reimbursement at the highest "free meal rate" for 100% of school meals served.

2012 - 2013 • Somerset County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in	A+	• An impressive 87.5% of low-income students in Somerset County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.
school breakfast	A+	• Somerset County ranks #2 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Breakfast in the classroom	A	 In Somerset County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 76% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

- Somerset County Public Schools have significantly surpassed the 70% breakfast participation goal! Somerset is one of four Maryland counties that have met or exceeded this goal. Great work!
- Congratulations to Somerset County for electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) district-wide for the 2014-2015 school year!
 - CEP is a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - The following are Hunger-Free Schools in Somerset County for the 2014-2015 school year:
 - ★ Carter G. Woodson Elementary School
 - ★ Crisfield High School & Academy
 - ★ Deal Island School
 - ★ Ewell Elementary School
 - ★ Greenwood Elementary School
 - ★ Princess Anne Elementary School
 - ★ Somerset Intermediate School
 - ★ Washington High School & Academy



	Grade			Comn	nents	
Low-income student participation in	C		of low-income s rticipate in sch		ot County that pa	rticipate in school lu
school breakfast	C+		County ranks # pation in schoo		yland districts in	low-income student
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 - 70 - 60 - 50 - 40 - 30 - 20 -	51.4	52.3	51.9	55.6	70 GOAL
Breakfast in the classroom	B -	for Brea		assroom, 63% of		for Achievement fun m all income levels)

- Talbot County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by implementing Breakfast in the Classroom in more schools.
 - While five schools were eligible for Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom in 2012-2013, just two participated in the program.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in the school lunch program also participate in breakfast, Talbot County will receive \$49,242 in additional federal funding.
- Talbot County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - Tilghman Elementary is eligible to become a Hunger-Free School in the 2014-2015 school year.

2012 - 2013 • Washington County

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in	A-	 69% of low-income students in Washington County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.
school breakfast	A-	 Washington County ranks #5 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.
Breakfast in the classroom	C+	 In the 23 Washington County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 62% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast.

Recommendations

- Washington County has almost reached the 70% breakfast participation goal!
- One of the reasons for Washington County's success is that they are the first public school district in the state to elect the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). This federal funding option allows schools to combat hunger by providing breakfast and lunch at no cost for all students.
- The following five Washington County Public Schools elected CEP and were Hunger-Free Schools in 2012-2013:
 - ★ Antietam Academy
 - ★ 🛛 Bester Elementary School
 - ★ The Family Learning Center
 - ★ Salem Avenue Elementary School
 - ★ Winter Street Elementary School
- As a result of the successful implementation in the first five schools, Washington County has expanded their use of CEP to the following additional schools for the 2014-2015 school year:
 - ★ Eastern Elementary School
 - 🛨 🛛 Funkstown School
 - Hickory Elementary School
 - ★ Lincolnshire Elementary School
 - ★ Marshall Street School
 - ★ Ruth Anne Monroe Primary School
 - ★ The Job Development Program



• Washington County has demonstrated great leadership in the effort to implement the Community Eligibility Provision in Maryland. Keep up the brilliant work!

2012 - 2013 • Wicomico County

	Grade	Comments		
Low-income student participation in	C+	 59.2% of low-income students in Wicomico County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast. 		
school breakfast	B	• Wicomico County ranks #12 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income student participation in school breakfast.		
Low-income students that receive school breakfast per 100 low-income lunch participants over time	80 70 60 50 40 30 20	56.6 56.2 59.2 53.6 53.6 53.6		
Breakfast in the classroom	A+	 In the Wicomico County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 79% of all students (from all income levels) participate in school breakfast. 		

- Wicomico County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by implementing Breakfast in the Classroom in more schools.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in breakfast, the county will receive \$176,908 in additional federal funding.
- Wicomico County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - In Wicomico County, sixteen schools are eligible to elect CEP and become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Seven of the schools that qualify for CEP would receive federal reimbursement at the highest "free meal rate" for 100% of school meals served including: Beaver Run Elementary, Charles H. Chipman Elementary, East Salisbury Elementary, Glen Avenue Elementary, Prince Street Elementary, Wicomico Alternative Center, and Wicomico Early Learning Center.

	Grade Comments				
Low-income student participation in	B	• 65.5% of low-income students in Worcester County that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast.			
school breakfast	B+	 Worcester County ranks #9 out of 24 Maryland districts in low-income studen participation in school breakfast. 			
Low-income students that receive	80	0 70			
school breakfast per 100 low-income	70				
lunch participants	60				
over time	50	o			
	40	o			
	30	o			
	20	0 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 GOAL			
Breakfast in the classroom	A +	 In the six Worcester County schools with Maryland Meals for Achievement funding for Breakfast in the Classroom, 78% of all students (from all income 			

- Worcester County can increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by implementing Breakfast in the Classroom in more schools.
 - When 70% of low-income students that participate in the school lunch program also participate in breakfast, the county will receive \$23,307 in additional federal funding.
- Worcester County can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by electing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - The following schools are eligible to elect CEP and could become Hunger-Free Schools in the 2014-2015 school year: Buckingham Elementary, Cedar Chapel, Pocomoke Elementary, Pocomoke High, Pocomoke Middle, and Snow Hill Elementary.

2012 - 2013 • State of Maryland

	Grade	Comments
Low-income student participation in school breakfast	C+	 56.5% of Maryland's low-income students that participate in school lunch also participate in school breakfast. Although steady progress is being made, this is well short of the 70% goal. If 70% of the low-income students that participated in school lunch also participated in school breakfast in 2012-2013, 38,556 additional students would have benefited from school breakfast and Maryland would have received \$9,816,497 in additional federal funding. Maryland ranks #14 out of 50 states in low-income student participation in
Breakfast in the		school breakfast.Maryland is a leader in providing state funding for Breakfast in the Classroom
classroom	B	 through the Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) program. MMFA significantly increases breakfast participation by providing free universal breakfast in high-poverty schools. In 2012-2013, MMFA funding allowed 286 schools to provide Breakfast in the Classroom.
		 In Maryland schools with MMFA funding, 66% of all students participate in school breakfast. By comparison, just 22% of all students in all Maryland public schools participate in school breakfast.

- While 96% of Maryland schools participate in the School Breakfast Program, student participation rates remain too low.
 Maryland can increase student participation in the School Breakfast Program by expanding funding for the successful Maryland
 Meals for Achievement (MMFA) program so that all low-income students can benefit from Breakfast in the Classroom.
 - While 826 schools met the eligibility criteria in the 2012-2013 school year, available funding (\$3,380,000) only allowed for 286 schools, or just 34% of those eligible, to participate.
 - Sixty schools, with thousands of low-income students, applied for MMFA funding, but were not able to implement Breakfast in the Classroom due to insufficient funding.
- Maryland can also increase participation in the School Breakfast Program by protecting districts that elect the Community Eligibility Provision, a federal funding option that allows schools to combat hunger by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students.
 - In 2012-2013, six Maryland schools participated in CEP and were Hunger-Free Schools by providing breakfast and lunch at no cost to all students.
 - In 2014-2015, hundreds of Maryland schools are eligible to elect CEP.
 - To encourage participation in CEP, Maryland legislators can pass the bill to protect school districts from financial loss in their compensatory education funding.

Trends in Low-Income Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program per 100 in National School Lunch Program

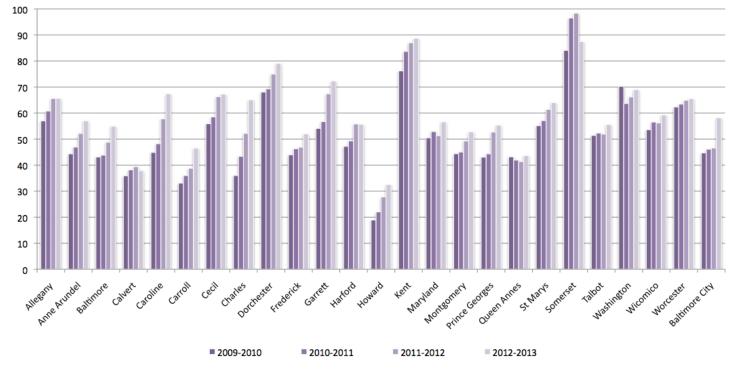
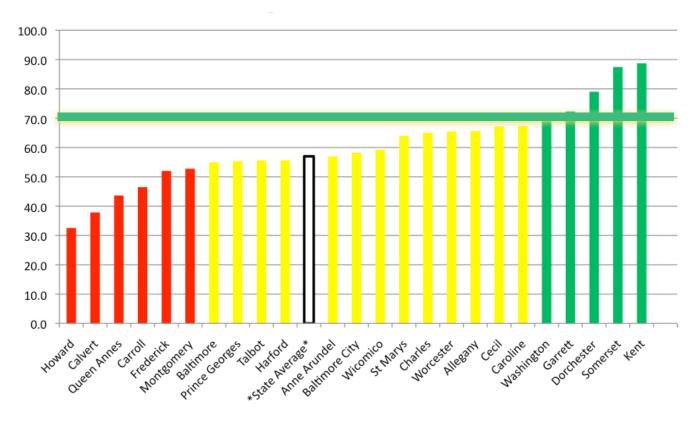


Figure 3. Trends in low-income student participation in the School Breakfast Program by school district.



Low-Income Student Participation in School Breakfast per 100 in School Lunch

Figure 4. Low-income student participation in the School Breakfast Program per 100 in the National School Lunch Program in the 2012-2013 school year. (The goal, which is 70% participation, is noted in green.)

Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) 2012-2013 School Year										
	Average Daily Free & Reduced- Price Lunches Served	Average Daily Free & Reduced- Price Breakfasts Served	Free & Reduced- Price Students in SBP per 100 NSLP	Rank	Additional Low- Income Students if 70 in SBP per 100 in NSLP	Additional Federal Funding if 70 Low-Income Students in SBP per 100 in NSLP				
Allegany	3,761	2,469	65.6	8	164	\$39,003				
Anne Arundel	15,971	9,109	57.0	14	2,071	\$560,507				
Baltimore County	37,134	20,399	54.9	18	5,594	\$1,433,428				
Calvert	2,237	847	37.9	23	719	\$193,644				
Caroline	2,406	1,621	67.4	6	63	\$16,937				
Carroll	3,280	1,524	46.5	21	772	\$209,014				
Cecil	4,517	3,038	67.3	7	124	\$32,946				
Charles	6,305	4,104	65.1	10	310	\$83,268				
Dorchester	2,224	1,758	79.0	3	n/a	n/a				
Frederick	6,243	3,247	52.0	20	1,123	\$301,394				
Garrett	1,601	1,157	72.3	4	n/a	n/a				
Harford	8,572	4,770	55.6	15	1,231	\$343,691				
Howard	6,729	2,191	32.6	24	2,519	\$667,555				
Kent	865	768	88.7	1	n/a	n/a				
Montgomery	33,108	17,468	52.8	19	5,707	\$1,702,034				
Prince George's	57,802	31,998	55.4	17	8,463	\$2,172,591				
Queen Anne's	1,343	586	43.6	22	354	\$97,915				
St. Mary's	3,534	2,261	64.0	11	213	\$63,895				
Somerset	1,450	1,268	87.5	2	n/a	n/a				
Talbot	1,298	722	55.6	16	187	\$49,242				
Washington	7,624	5,261	69.0	5	76	\$20,494				
Wicomico	6,155	3,645	59.2	12	663	\$176,908				
Worcester	1,976	1,294	65.5	9	89	\$23,307				
Baltimore City	47,705	27,769	58.2	13	5,624	\$1,507,967				

Figure 5. Participation in school meals for the 2012-2013 school year in Maryland.

Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) 2012-2013 School Year									
	Total Number of Schools in District	Number of Schools Eligible for MMFA	Percent of Schools Eligible for MMFA	Number of Schools Participating in MMFA	Percent of Eligible Schools Participating in MMFA	Percent of All Schools Participating in MMFA			
Allegany	24	22	92%	10	45%	42%			
Anne Arundel	119	41	34%	31	76%	26%			
Baltimore County	167	108	65%	36	33%	22%			
Calvert	24	4	17%	0	0%	0%			
Caroline	11	11	100%	7	64%	64%			
Carroll	44	4	9%	4	100%	9%			
Cecil	31	15	48%	12	80%	39%			
Charles	37	13	35%	9	69%	24%			
Dorchester	13	11	85%	8	73%	62%			
Frederick	69	18	26%	8	44%	12%			
Garrett	14	10	71%	8	80%	57%			
Harford	54	18	33%	11	61%	20%			
Howard	73	11	15%	7	64%	10%			
Kent	7	6	86%	5	83%	71%			
Montgomery	202	84	42%	41	49%	20%			
Prince George's	199	162	81%	29	18%	15%			
Queen Anne's	15	3	20%	3	100%	20%			
Somerset	10	10	100%	4	40%	40%			
St. Mary's	27	9	33%	7	78%	26%			
Talbot	10	5	50%	2	40%	20%			
Washington	47	30	64%	23	77%	49%			
Wicomico	26	24	92%	6	25%	23%			
Worcester	15	12	80%	6	50%	40%			
Baltimore City*	199	195	98%	7	4%	4%			
826 MMFA Elig Schools in M			Eligible	Schools in	34 Maryland e in MMFA				

*Note: Baltimore City Schools receive Provision 2, which provides funding for universal free school breakfast. Figure 6. Maryland Meals for Achievement participation during the 2012-2013 school year.

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