Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

Maryland School Breakfast Report

School Year 2022–2023

Creating Healthier Students and Better Learners With the School Breakfast Program

June 2024 | WWW.MDHUNGERSOLUTIONS.ORG

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JUNE 2024

About Maryland Hunger Solutions

Maryland Hunger Solutions, founded in 2007 by the Food Research & Action Center, works to end hunger and improve the nutrition, health, and well-being of individuals, children, and families in Maryland. Maryland Hunger Solutions uses a three-pronged strategy to:

- provide education about the stark reality of hunger's existence in Maryland and the proven solutions to reduce food insecurity;
- improve public policies to end food insecurity and poverty; and
- ensure that all eligible residents are connected to federal and state nutrition programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and school meals programs.

Acknowledgments

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- United States Department of Agriculture
- Frederick County Community Foundation

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JUST OVER
210,000
children received a breakfast through the School Breakfast Program on an average day during the 2022–2023 school year — a decrease of nearly 39,000 children, or 15.8 percent, when compared to the 2021–2022 school year.

JUST OVER
34 million
breakfasts were served through the School Breakfast Program across the state — a decrease of over 6.6 million meals, or 16.3 percent, when compared to the 2021–2022 school year.

JUST OVER
387,000
children received a lunch through the National School Lunch Program on an average day during the 2022–2023 school year — a decrease of nearly 65,000 children, or 14.3 percent, when compared to the 2021–2022 school year.

JUST OVER
63 million
lunches were served through the National School Lunch Program across the state — a decrease of 10.5 million, or 14.2 percent, when compared to the 2021–2022 school year.

Executive Summary

The 2022–2023 school year (SY) marked the end of many federal pandemic-related program funding and expansions, including the nationwide child nutrition waiver that allowed all schools to provide school meals at no cost to all students. Although the return to pre-pandemic operations reintroduced many barriers to participation, the nutritious breakfasts and lunches served during the school day continued to be a critical support for hundreds of thousands of Maryland families as students and communities continued to recover from the economic and health impacts of COVID-19. This reliable source of nutrition was especially important at a time when food insecurity rates remained high, inflation was at historic levels, and many additional federal pandemic response support systems ended.

At the onset of the pandemic, nationwide waivers were issued to allow schools to serve meals to all students at no charge through the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). This gave students access to school breakfasts and lunches to help ensure that they continued to have access to these critical meals while schools were closed in response to the pandemic, and remained well-nourished and ready to learn when school returned to in-person learning. Despite strong efforts from anti-hunger advocates, these waivers were not extended into the 2022–2023 school year.

With the ending of these waivers, schools were forced to return to the traditional tiered system of certifying children for free, reduced-price, or paid meals. The return to this system where some students receive free meals and some students pay for their meals reintroduced longstanding barriers to school meal participation and caused a decline in the number of

school breakfasts and school lunches served across all income levels.

Key Findings
- Just over 210,000 children received a breakfast, and 387,000 children received a lunch on an average day during the 2022–2023 school year, **a decrease of nearly 39,000 children (15.8 percent) in breakfast, and 65,000 (14.3 percent) in lunch** when compared to the 2020–2021 school year.
- During the 2022–2023 school year, over 34 million breakfasts were served throughout Maryland, **a decrease of 6.6 million meals (16.3 percent)** when compared to the 2021–2022 school year.
- Breakfast and lunch participation in 2022–2023 was slightly lower when compared to pre-pandemic levels. **Over 38,000 fewer children participated in breakfast on an average day** when compared to 2018–2019 (the last full year before the pandemic), and **almost 31,000 fewer children participated in lunch**.
- **The ratio of students receiving a breakfast compared to students receiving a lunch also decreased** from 55 students receiving a breakfast for every 100 receiving a lunch in the 2021–2022 school year to 54 to 100 in the 2022–2023 school year.

The strong investments and expanded flexibilities provided in response to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an increase in children receiving a school breakfast and lunch during the previous 2021–2022 school year. The sharp drop in participation seen in the 2022–2023 school year demonstrates the impact from the loss of these critical federal supports before a full recovery from the economic impacts of the pandemic was made.

Fortunately, with the advocacy efforts of anti-hunger and education champions, the Maryland legislature has been presented with the opportunity to pass state legislation to fill the gap left on the federal level and join the growing list of other states providing state funds to cover the cost of school breakfast and lunch for all students, regardless of their economic status. Additionally, recent state and federal policy changes are beginning to create more pathways for eligible high-poverty schools to serve breakfast at no cost to all students through the state-funded Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA) program and the federal Community Eligibility Provision (CEP).

As advocacy efforts continue to make Healthy School Meals for All a reality in Maryland, school nutrition departments will need ongoing support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), and policymakers to overcome the financial and operational challenges they continue to face. Maximizing the use of existing options to provide school meals at no cost, such as MMFA and CEP, as well as returning to proven best practices for increasing participation — such as implementing innovative breakfast models, increasing the length of the lunch period, and serving high-quality, appealing meals — must remain at the forefront of efforts to regain participation losses from the 2022–2023 school year.

📄 About This Report

This report measures the reach of school breakfast in the 2022–2023 school year from September through May based on a variety of metrics and examines the impact of select trends and policies on program participation.

In response to the pandemic, the USDA issued waivers that allowed schools to serve meals to all students at no charge through the SFSP or the SSO beginning in March 2020 and extending through the 2021–2022 school year.

While this report looks mainly at the 2022–2023 school year, it also compares participation numbers against participation during the 2021–2022 school year. Meals served through the SSO waivers in the 2021–2022 school year were provided at no charge to all children and were counted as "free meals" in the report. To account for this change, the report focuses primarily on total breakfast and lunch participation during the 2022–2023 school year as free and reduced-priced data does not provide an accurate comparison.

The report also includes report cards that evaluate breakfast participation of students from households with low incomes in each public school system and the state. The overall grade for each reflects the level of success in attaining the achievable national benchmark of reaching 70 children from low-income households with school breakfast for every 100 receiving school lunch, as set by the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC).

🍎 How the School Nutrition Programs Work

Who Operates the School Breakfast Program?

Any public school, nonprofit private school, or residential child care institution can participate in the 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 Maryland through the Maryland State Department of Education.

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 household income.

- Children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) are eligible for free meals.
- Children from families with incomes between 130 to 185 percent of the FPL qualify for reduced-price meals. However, in Maryland the state covers the cost of reduced-price meals so children in this category also receive meals at no cost.
- Children from families with incomes above 185 percent of the FPL pay charges (referred to as "paid meals"), which are set by the local school system.

How Are Children Certified for Free Meals?

Most children are certified for free 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 Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, as well as children in foster care or from migrant families, children or youth without permanent housing, 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 have the option of directly certifying other categorically eligible children as well.

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 meal 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 the school receives for each meal served depends on whether a student is receiving free, reduced-price, or paid school meals.

For the 2022–2023 school year, schools received:
- $2.26 per free breakfast;
- $1.96 per reduced-price breakfast; and
- $0.50 per "paid" breakfast.

"Severe-need" schools received an additional $0.35 cents for each free or reduced-price breakfast served. Schools are considered to be in severe need if at least 40 percent of the lunches served during the second preceding school year were at the free or reduced-price rate.[1]

Offering Breakfast and Lunch at No Cost

Offering free meals to all students removes the stigma often associated with means-tested school breakfast and school lunch, opens the program to children from families who would struggle to pay the paid breakfast and lunch charges, and streamlines the implementation of breakfast in the classroom and other alternative service models.

Many high-poverty schools in Maryland are able to offer meals at no cost to all students, with federal reimbursements based on the percentage of children from low-income households in the school and/or with the assistance of additional state funds. Schools can offer free breakfast to all students through the options that follow.
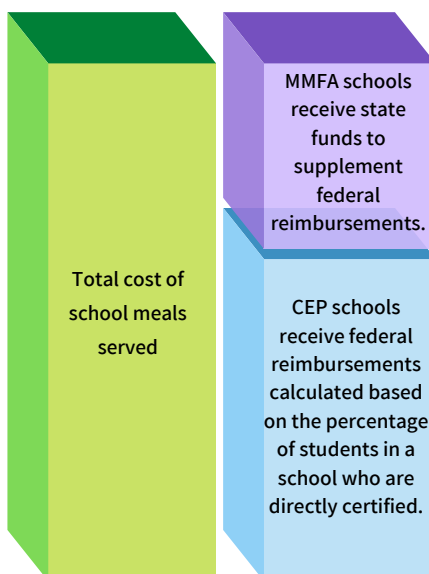
- **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP):** Community eligibility allows high-poverty schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students without having to collect, process, or verify school meal applications, or keep track of meals by fee category, which leads to significant administrative savings and increased participation. A district, group of schools in a district, or individual school can choose to participate if 40 percent or more of enrolled students are identified as eligible for free school meals by means other than an individual household application.

- **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 based on those applications for at least three out of every four years. Schools collect school meal applications and count and claim meals by fee category during year one of the multiyear cycle, called the "base year." Those data then determine the federal reimbursement and are used for future years in the cycle. Provision 2 schools have the option to serve only breakfast, only 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.

- **Non-pricing:** No fees are collected from students; however, the school does not receive any additional funding aside from standard federal reimbursements

for the breakfasts served under the three-tier federal fee categories (free, reduced-price, and paid).

- **Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA):** MMFA provides state funding to supplement federal meal reimbursements so that schools can offer breakfast to all students at no charge with an alternative breakfast after the bell model (such as breakfast in the classroom, "grab and go", or second chance breakfast). A school is eligible to participate in MMFA when at least 40 percent of the students qualify for free or reduced-price school meals. Schools that fall below the eligibility threshold are allowed a one-year grace period.

Table 1: School Districts With Highest Percentage of Schools Providing Breakfast at No Cost to All Students During the 2022–2023 School Year Through CEP and/or MMFA	
School District	**Percentage of Schools Serving School Breakfast at No Cost to All Students**
Baltimore City	100
Baltimore County	100
Caroline County	100
Dorchester County	100
Kent County	100
Somerset County	100
Wicomico County	100
Washington County	87
Garrett County	86
Allegany County	75

MMFA schools receive state funds to supplement federal reimbursements.

Total cost of school meals served

CEP schools receive federal reimbursements calculated based on the percentage of students in a school who are directly certified.

The Power of Two

Many high-poverty schools are eligible for community eligibility and MMFA. Because MMFA is funded at the state level, while community eligibility uses federal funds, these schools are able to participate in both programs at the same time to cover the cost of providing school meals at no cost to all students.

The funds provided by the state through MMFA are designed to complement the federal school breakfast reimbursement rates, allowing Maryland schools to optimize the amount of federal reimbursements they are receiving and making community eligibility more financially viable. Additionally, schools opting into MMFA are required to serve breakfast using an alternative breakfast after the bell service model, which helps to increase participation by making breakfast more accessible and a part of the school day. By opting to use community eligibility and MMFA together, schools can capitalize on the benefits of both programs and remove all of the major barriers to breakfast participation by combining breakfast after the bell with providing school meals to all students at no cost.

School Breakfast During the 2022–2023 School Year

School breakfast participation decreased in Maryland during the 2022–2023 school year when compared to the 2021–2022 school year. As schools returned to normal operations and the nationwide waivers expired, many of the barriers that kept children from participating in breakfast before the pandemic, e.g., bus schedules and timing of breakfast service, reemerged.

Prior to the pandemic, schools were making progress in increasing breakfast participation and reducing the gap between breakfast and lunch participation by implementing innovative service models — such as breakfast in the classroom, grab and go breakfast, and second chance breakfast — which help overcome the common timing and location barriers to participation in school breakfast. Districts need to reprioritize these efforts to ensure that children can start the school day ready to learn.

On an average school day during the 2022–2023 school year, over 210,000 Maryland children participated in the School Breakfast Program, of which nearly 158,000 children received a free breakfast.

When compared to school lunch participation, approximately 54 students participated in breakfast for every 100 students participating in school lunch during the 2022–2023 school year. This is a slight decrease from the 2021–2022 school year when the ratio of students receiving breakfast compared to students receiving lunch was 55 per 100.

On an average school day during the 2022–2023 school year, just over **210,000 Maryland children** received a breakfast — with almost **158,000 children** receiving a free breakfast.

Over 34 million total breakfasts were served throughout Maryland in the 2022–2023 school year — **a decrease of 6.6 million breakfasts** (16.3 percent) when compared to the 2021–2022 school year.

Eight districts saw an **increase** in the total number of breakfasts served in the 2022–2023 school year compared to the 2021–2022 school year.

The 2022–2023 school year was the first year that Maryland **completely eliminated the reduced-cost copay** for all school meals, meaning children in the reduced-price category received school meals at no cost.

Table 2: School Districts That Experienced Growth in Average Number of Breakfasts Served Between SY 2021–2022 and SY 2022–2023	
School District	Percent Increase in School Breakfast ADP Between SY 2021–2022 and SY 2022–2023
Dorchester County*	22.0
Garrett County	13.9
Talbot County	13.3
Wicomico County*	10.9
Caroline County*	9.7
Worcester County	9.0
Somerset County*	8.6
Washington County	3.5

*Districts serving breakfast at no cost to all students through districtwide CEP.

The 2022–2023 school year also saw a decrease in participation among students from low-income households when compared to pre-pandemic numbers. During the 2022–2023 school year, 58 students from low-income households participated in breakfast per every 100 participating in lunch, whereas in 2018–2019 (the last full school year before pandemic-related school closures), the ratio of students from low-income households participating in school breakfast to children participating in school lunch was 61.8 per 100.[2]

While the state saw an overall decrease in average daily participation, overall meals served, and the breakfast to lunch participation ratio, many individual school districts experienced growth in school breakfast participation during the 2022–2023 school year, including eight districts that saw an increase in average daily

participation, and 16 districts that saw an increase in the ratio of students participating in breakfast compared to those participating in lunch.

Out of the 24 public school districts in Maryland, only eight school districts reached the Food Research & Action Center's goal of reaching 70 children from households with school breakfast for every 100 participating in school lunch.

Somerset County was the top-performing school district in terms of school breakfast participation, reaching 104.6 students with school breakfast for every 100 who participated in school lunch, meaning more students participated in school breakfast than school lunch.

The other seven school districts that met the national benchmark were Kent County, Caroline County, Talbot County, Garret County, Worcester County, Dorchester County, and Cecil County.

Of the Maryland school districts that failed to reach this goal, Calvert County was the lowest-performing district, reaching only 23.5 students with school breakfast for every 100 who participated in school lunch. Seven other districts also failed to reach even half of the students who ate lunch with a healthy school breakfast and

received a "Time to Act" grade on their breakfast scorecard.

Low participation in school breakfast causes students to miss out on the educational and health benefits associated with eating school breakfast. This missed opportunity was especially apparent during the 2022–2023 school year as participation decreased across the board. Before the pandemic, half of Maryland districts met this benchmark; in the 2022–2023 school year, only eight districts did.

If all 24 Maryland school districts had met the national benchmark, **63,349 additional children** across the state would have started each day with a healthy breakfast at school.

Barriers to School Breakfast Participation

The decrease in participation during the 2022–2023 school year may in part be attributed to the loss of federal waivers that allowed all students to receive school breakfast at no cost. With the return to traditional service models, many of the barriers that kept children from participating in breakfast before the pandemic may be reemerging. While many factors contribute to school breakfast participation, three primary barriers stand out:

Time: Many schools offer breakfast in the cafeteria before the school day begins, making it inaccessible to the many students who have not yet arrived at school. Even if students arrive early to eat school breakfast, they may feel peer pressure to socialize or play instead.

Stigma: Too often school breakfast is perceived as only serving children from families with low incomes. The severity of this stigma becomes more pronounced for middle and high school students. By increasing access to all students, this stigma associated with the School Breakfast Program will decrease as participation grows among students of all income levels.

Cost: Many families with low incomes are not able to afford the cost of school meals. This is especially true for families whose income falls just above the cut-off line to qualify for free school meals and, as a result, must pay full price for school meals, despite the fact that they are likely struggling to make ends meet.

Looking Ahead: Best Practices for Increasing School Breakfast Participation

Moving forward, it will be essential that many of the proven best practices used before the pandemic to maximize breakfast participation — offering breakfast at no charge to all students and serving meals through breakfast after the bell service models — are revisited.

➤ Implementing Healthy School Meals for All to remove the barrier of cost for all students;

➤ implementing breakfast after the bell service models, such as breakfast in the classroom, "grab and go," and second chance breakfast; and

➤ participating in Maryland Meals for Achievement, when eligible.

Removing Barriers With Healthy School Meals for All

When school meals are offered at no cost to all students, participation increases because it prevents students from "falling through the cracks," including those in families who are just above the income threshold for assistance, but still struggling to make ends meet. By allowing all students, regardless of income, to eat a free school breakfast and lunch, the stigma associated with these programs disappears and participation grows across all income levels.

Schools also experience benefits when they are able to offer meals at no cost to all students, such as reducing the administrative burden, eliminating school meal debt, and better supporting school nutrition departments in the face of rising food costs and ongoing supply chain disruptions.

As school nutrition departments continue to face challenges with staffing shortages, limited food supply options, and inadequate federal reimbursements, and Maryland communities continue to experience the economic impacts of inflation and rising food costs, now is the time to return to a Healthy School Meals for All system to better support Maryland schools and families.

There are many pathways to Healthy School Meals for All, including taking steps on the federal, state, or local level to move the needle towards ensuring all students have access to the meals they need to thrive. Over the years, Maryland school districts and state policymakers have taken incremental steps toward expanding access to school meals.

• **In 2015, the Hunger-Free Schools Act** passed, which increased access to community eligibility, allowing

Maryland's high-poverty schools to offer all students free school meals. In school year 2015–2016, directly following the passage of this bill, the number of schools electing community eligibility rose from 23 in the previous school year to 227. During the 2022 – 2023 school year, 350 schools participated in CEP, including all schools districtwide in Baltimore City, Somerset County, Dorchester County, and Wicomico County.

Healthy School Meals for All Maryland

Advocates and community partners across the state have joined together to build an active campaign to advocate for school meals to be provided at no cost to all students in Maryland. Since 2022, this coalition has grown in numbers and scope of support to include anti-hunger advocates, education professionals, parents, researchers, health professionals, students, businesses, and community stakeholders.

Maryland legislators had the opportunity to consider Healthy School Meals for All legislation in 2023 but did not pass it. Moving forward, the Healthy School Meals for All Maryland Coalition will continue to work with legislators and coalition partners to advocate for Maryland to join the growing list of states to make this important investment in our state's future.

Learn more about the Healthy School Meals for All Maryland coalition and movement at **www.healthyschoolmealsforallmd.org.**

- **In 2018, the Maryland Cares for Kids Act** passed, which phased out the reduced-price copay for school breakfast and lunch over the course of four years. Starting in the 2022–2023 school year, all students in Maryland who are eligible for reduced-price meals received their school meals at no cost.

- **In 2020, the Student Meal Program and Meal Charges Act** was enacted to ensure that no Maryland student is identified, punished, or stigmatized in the event that they are unable to pay for their school meal. In addition, meals can no longer be taken away from students once they are served and any low-cost alternative meal being offered must meet USDA nutrition standards.

- **In 2022**, the Maryland State Department of Education **strengthened the direct certification process** by opting into the USDA demonstration project to allow students to be directly certified for free and reduced-price meals through a Medicaid data match. By incorporating this additional data source, Maryland schools were able to connect an additional 110,000 students to free meals and greatly increase the number of schools eligible for CEP.[3]

- **In 2023, the Maryland General Assembly increased funding for MMFA** to fully fund the program and allow all eligible schools to participate for the first time since the program's creation in 1998.

How Community Eligibility Works

The Community Eligibility Provision allows high-poverty schools to offer breakfast and lunch free of charge to all students. 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 by means other than an individual household application — can choose to participate.

"Identified students" include those who are in two categories:

- children who are directly certified for free school meals through data matching because their households receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations benefits, or, in some states, Medicaid benefits; and
- children who are certified for free meals without an application because they are homeless, migrant, enrolled in Head Start, or in foster care.

Community eligibility schools are reimbursed for meals served based on a 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. The remaining meals are reimbursed at the federal paid rate. For example, a school with 50 percent identified students would be reimbursed at the free rate for 80 percent of the meals served (50 multiplied by 1.6 is 80), and at the paid rate for 20 percent.

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

Removing Barriers With Breakfast After the Bell

Implementing a breakfast after the bell model that moves breakfast out of the school cafeteria and offers it after the first bell rings — making 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 overcomes timing, convenience, and stigma barriers that prevent children from participating in school breakfast; it is even more impactful when combined with offering breakfast at no charge to all students. There are three primary options for serving breakfast after the bell:

- Breakfast in the Classroom: Meals are delivered to and eaten in the classroom at the start of the school day;

- "Grab and Go": Children can quickly grab their breakfast from carts or kiosks in the hallway or the cafeteria line to eat in their classroom or in common areas.

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

Percentage of Schools Using Each Breakfast Service Model in Maryland

TRADITIONAL

45% of schools serve breakfast in the cafeteria before the start of the school day.

IN THE CLASSROOM

39% of schools serve breakfast in the classroom.

GRAB AND GO

15% of schools serve breakfast from one location to be taken and eaten in another.

SECOND CHANCE

1% of schools serve breakfast after homeroom or first period.

Removing Barriers With Maryland Meals for Achievement

Maryland Meals for Achievement allows high-poverty schools to serve free breakfast directly in the classroom. This state funding supplements federal reimbursements to facilitate schools offering breakfast in the classroom or after the bell at no charge to all students. MMFA removes all three of the breakfast barriers to participation by combining breakfast after the bell with Healthy School Meals for All.

MMFA began in 1998 with just six participating schools. In 2017, the Maryland Meals for Achievement for Teens Act expanded access to MMFA in middle and high schools. This bill also instituted a one-year grace period for schools that are participating in the program but fall below a 40 percent free and reduced-price eligibility threshold, allowing for some districts to have more schools participating than are eligible.

State funding was stagnant until 2023 when the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation to fully fund the program and allow all eligible schools the opportunity to opt into receiving this funding for the first time in the program's history.

Find out which schools in your district or community are participating in MMFA by visiting the **MMFA School Participation Data webpage.**

Conclusion

There have been many lessons learned throughout the pandemic when it comes to connecting families to nutrition, but one stands above the rest: the critical importance of providing healthy school meals to all students. The education and health benefits of participating in school meals are numerous, and more children participate when breakfasts and lunches are available to them at no cost.

Participation in school breakfast and lunch decreased dramatically in the 2022–2023 school year, as the ripple effect of the nationwide waivers ending brought back longstanding barriers to participation. Additionally, the end of pandemic-era supports have heightened the impact of lasting operational challenges for school nutrition departments, such as inflated food prices, staffing challenges, and inadequate federal reimbursement rates.

Now is the time to make important investments in the school meal programs to better support school meal operations and the students and families who rely on this important nutrition safety net. Healthy School Meals for All, combined with the implementation of proven best practices, is the path forward to ensure all children have access to the nutritious school meals they need to learn and thrive.

📄 Technical Notes

The data in this report were collected from the Maryland State Department of Education data in the following reports:

- Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Data School Year 2022–2023;[4]
- School Meals Average Daily Participation — Breakfast Agency Totals by Month;[5]
- School Meals Average Daily Participation — Lunch Agency Totals by Month;[6]
- Seamless Summer Option Meal Counts 2021–2022;[7]
- School Meals Breakfast Delivery Method by Site – Disclosure;[8]
- Maryland Meals for Achievement 2022–2023 School Year — Participating Schools;[9] and
- School Meals Breakfast Delivery Method by Site.[10]

Student participation data for the 2022–2023 school year and the 2021–2022 school year are based on daily averages of the number of breakfasts and lunches served on school days from September through May. Due to rounding, totals in the tables may not add up to 100 percent.

This report does not include data for students attending private schools, residential child care institutions, and other institutions that operate school meals programs outside of the public school system.

This report compares the Average Daily Participation (ADP) of school breakfast to the ADP of school lunch. During the 2021–2022 school year, average daily participation is based on the number of breakfasts and lunches served through the Seamless Summer Option and the reported days of operation for September through May.

During the 2022–2023 school year, average daily participation is based on the number of breakfasts and lunches served through the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)and each state's average number of serving days in SBP and NSLP during the 2022–2023 school year.

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1 U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service. "School Breakfast Programs; National Average Payments/Maximum Reimbursement Rates (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023)". Available at: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/07/26/2022-15892/national-school-lunch-special-milk-and-school-breakfast-programs-national-average-paymentsmaximum. Accessed on Feb. 2, 2024.

2 Gross, J. (2019). *Maryland School Breakfast Report — School Year 2018–2019: Creating Healthier Students and Better Learners With the School Breakfast Program*. Maryland Hunger Solutions. https://www.mdhungersolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/MDHS-Full-Breakfast-Report-2020.pdf

3 Department of Legislative Services, Office of Policy Analysis. Fiscal Briefing. January 25, 2023.

4 Maryland State Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (2023). Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Data School Year 2022–2023. [Data set]. Available at: https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/SchoolandCommunityNutrition/Documents/Free%20and%20Reduced%20Data/FARMSSY2022-2023.pdf. Accessed on February 2, 2024.

5 Maryland State Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (2023). School Meals Average Daily Participation — Breakfast Agency Totals by Month (7/1/2022 through 6/30/2023). [Data set]. Retrieved from data request.

6 Maryland State Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (2023). School Meals Average Daily Participation — Lunch Agency Totals by Month (7/1/2022 through 6/30/2023). [Data set]. Retrieved from data request.

7 Maryland State Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (2023). Seamless Summer Option Meal Counts 2021–2022. [Data set]. Retrieved from data request.

8 Maryland State Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (2023). School Meals Breakfast Delivery Method by Site. [Data set]. Retrieved from data request.

9 Maryland State Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (2023). Maryland Meals for Achievement School Year (SY) 2022–2023. [Data set]. Available at: https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/SchoolandCommunityNutrition/Documents/MMFA/MMFASiteList2022-2023.pdf. Accessed on February 7, 2024.

10 Maryland State Department of Education, Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs (2023). School Meal Breakfast Delivery Method by Site. [Data set]. Retrieved from data request.

Maryland School Breakfast Scorecards

SCHOOL YEAR 2022–2023

Scorecard Overview

The following scorecards evaluate the state of Maryland and each public school system on student participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP). The overall grade reflects the number of students participating in school breakfast for every 100 students participating in school lunch through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

Grading Rubric

Based on top state and district performances, the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) has set an attainable benchmark for every state and school district to reach a ratio of 70 children receiving school breakfast for every 100 receiving school lunch.

School districts reaching this goal received a grade of A- or higher. School districts failing to reach 50 children with breakfast for every 100 receiving lunch received a grade of "Time to Act," indicating the need to implement more best practices to reach a higher number of participating students.

Using FRAC's benchmark, Maryland Hunger Solutions calculated the additional students who would have been reached if each district achieved the 70-to-100 participation ratio goal in the 2022–2023 school year.

Grade	Average Daily Participation of Students Participating in School Breakfast per 100 Participating in School Lunch
A+	90–100
A	80–89
A-	70–79
B+	67–69
B	65–66
B-	62–64
C+	58–61
C	54–57
C-	51–53
Time to Act	0–50

Best Practices

The following scorecards include the number of schools in each district that are eligible for and are implementing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA).

Beginning in the 2023–2024 school year, schools with an Identified Student Percentage (ISP) of 25 percent and higher are eligible to adopt CEP. For the purposes of this report, the CEP eligibility data included is based on enrollment data from the 2021–2022 school year and uses the previous eligibility threshold of a 40 percent ISP, which was used by districts to make CEP adoption decisions for the 2022–2023 school year.

Additionally, eligibility data for CEP is based on individual school eligibility and does not reflect the greatest number of schools that could be eligible if grouping was used.

School Breakfast Scorecard

MARYLAND

C

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP
892,067	210,786	387,550	54.4

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	374	350
Maryland Meals for Achievement	988	557

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	39%
Grab and Go	15%
Second Chance	1%
Traditional	45%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Second Chance 1%
Grab and Go 15%
In the Classroom 39%
Traditional 45%
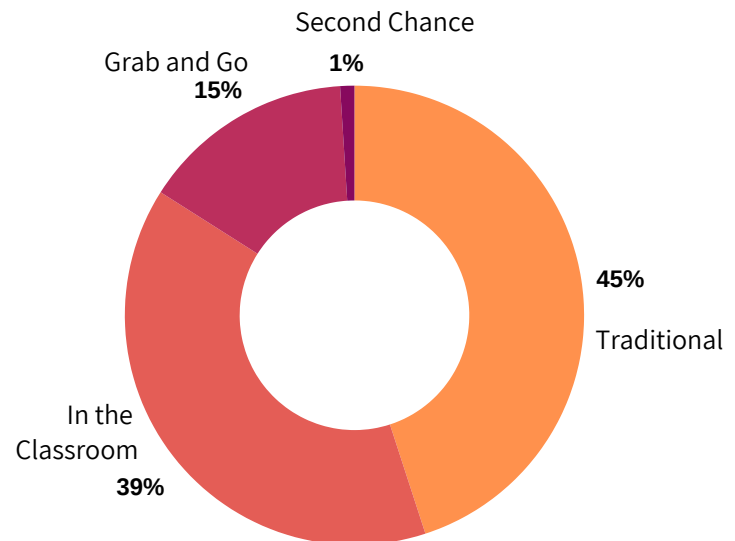
Participation Goal*

269,451 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

63,349 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

B-

School Breakfast Scorecard
ALLEGANY COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
8,174	2,484	3,958	62.8	12

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	15	5
Maryland Meals for Achievement	24	13

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	29%
Grab and Go	71%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	0%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

29% In the Classroom

71% Grab and Go
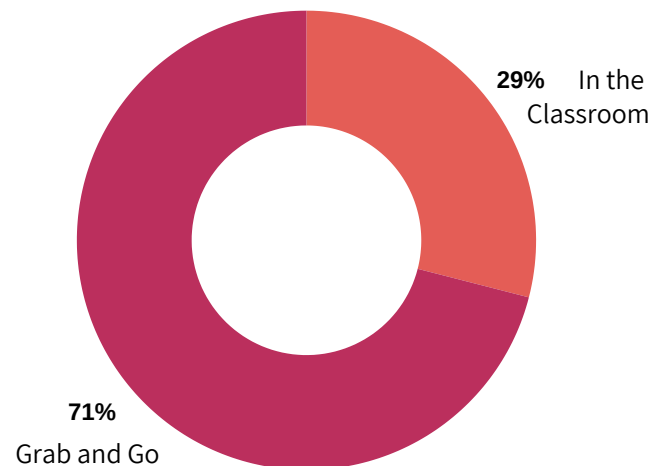
Participation Goal*

2,771 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

286 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

TIME TO ACT

School Breakfast Scorecard
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
84,604	14,335	32,287	44.4	18

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	9	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	66	58

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	39%
Grab and Go	13%
Second Chance	2%
Traditional	47%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

- Second Chance 2%
- Grab and Go 13%
- Traditional 47%
- In the Classroom 38%
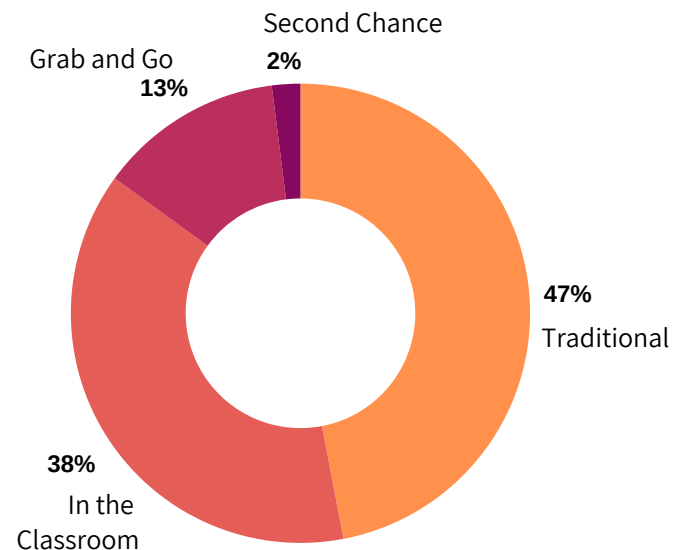
Participation Goal*

22,601 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

8,266 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

TIME TO ACT

School Breakfast Scorecard

BALTIMORE CITY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
76,344	18,213	43,262	42.1	21

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	Districtwide (160)	Districtwide (160)
Maryland Meals for Achievement	159	0

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	0%
Grab and Go	13%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	87%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go **13%**

87% Traditional
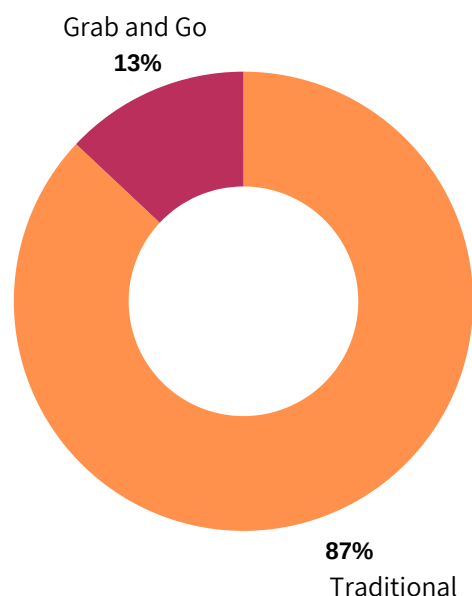
Participation Goal*

30,283 CHILDREN

would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

12,071 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN

would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

BALTIMORE COUNTY

B+

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
111,000	32,031	47,802	67.0	10

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	79	87
Maryland Meals for Achievement	136	108

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	51%
Grab and Go	29%
Second Chance	2%
Traditional	18%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Second Chance **2%**
Traditional **18%**
Grab and Go **29%**
51% In the Classroom
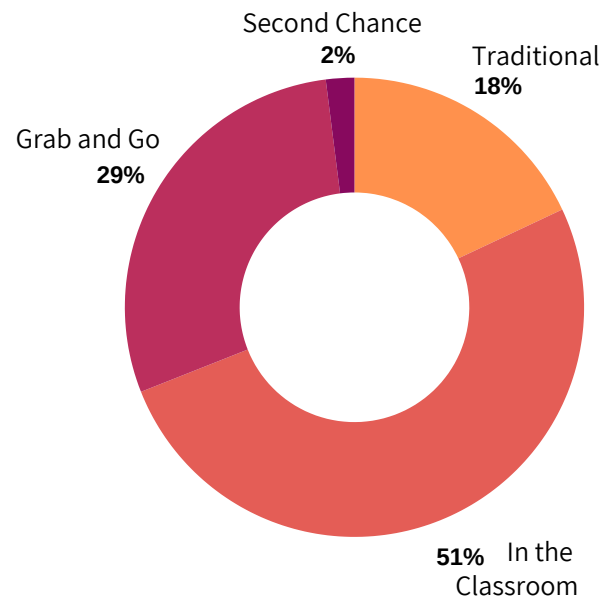
Participation Goal*

33,462 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

1,431 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

TIME TO ACT

Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

School Breakfast Scorecard
CALVERT COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
15,465	968	4,109	23.5	24

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	0	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	7	0

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	0%
Grab and Go	0%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	100%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

100%
Traditional

Participation Goal*

2,876 CHILDREN
would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

1,909 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN
would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

A

School Breakfast Scorecard

CAROLINE COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
5,736	3,307	3,474	95.2	3

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	5	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	12	12

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	100%
Grab and Go	0%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	0%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

100% In the Classroom

Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Caroline County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

TIME TO ACT

School Breakfast Scorecard
CARROLL COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
25,750	3,684	8,597	42.9	19

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	0	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	8	6

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	15%
Grab and Go	5%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	80%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

- In the Classroom **15%**
- Grab and Go **5%**
- **80%** Traditional
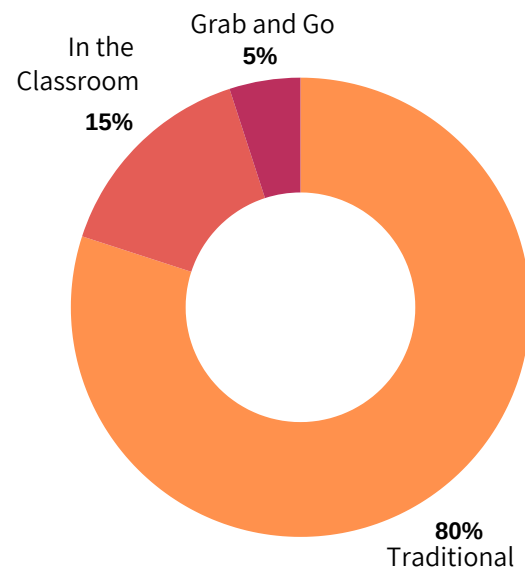
Participation Goal*

6,018 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

2,334 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

A-

School Breakfast Scorecard

CECIL COUNTY

Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
15,119	5,238	7,265	72.1	8

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	2	6
Maryland Meals for Achievement	27	16

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	53%
Grab and Go	27%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	20%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Traditional **20%**

Grab and Go **27%**

53% In the Classroom
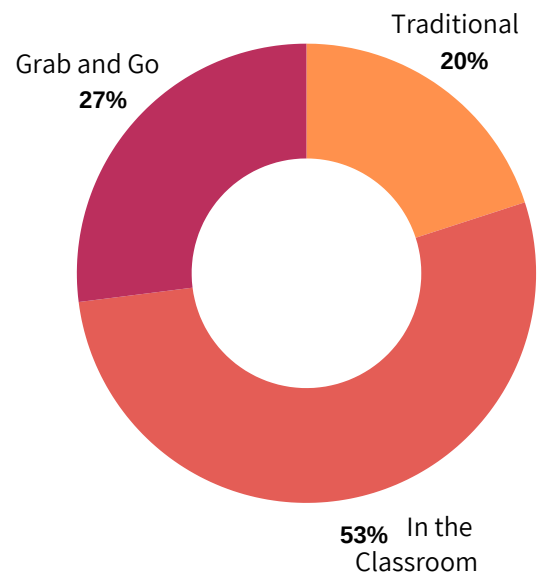
Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Cecil County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

B-

School Breakfast Scorecard
CHARLES COUNTY

Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
27,764	9,255	14,871	62.2	13

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	2	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	29	21

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	70%
Grab and Go	15%
Second Chance	10%
Traditional	5%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Second Chance 10%
Traditional 5%
Grab and Go 15%
70% In the Classroom
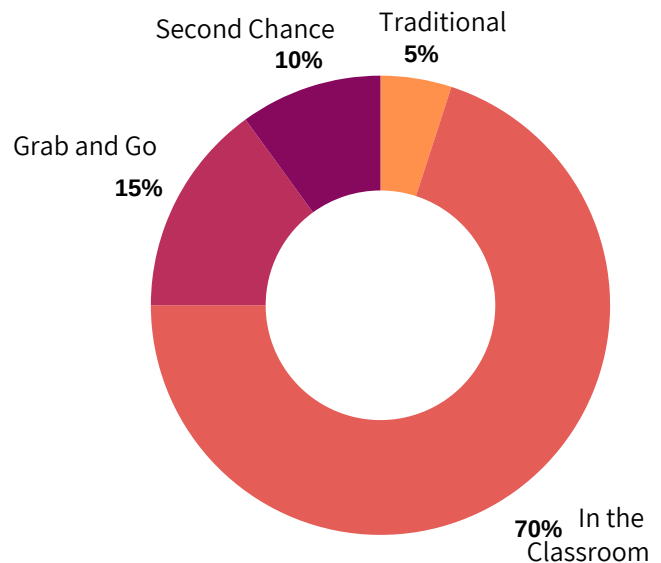
Participation Goal*

10,409 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

1,154 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

DORCHESTER COUNTY

A-

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
4,543	2,140	2,854	75.0	7

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	Districtwide (12)	Districtwide (12)
Maryland Meals for Achievement	11	11

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	58%
Grab and Go	34%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	8%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Traditional 8%

Grab and Go 34%

58% In the Classroom
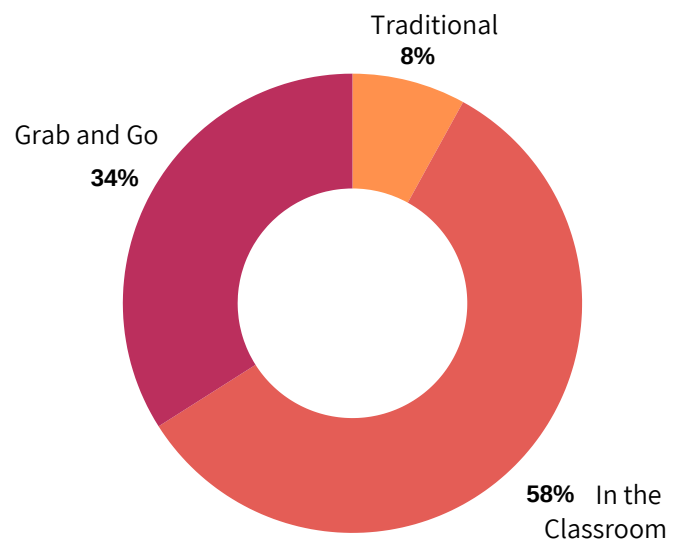
Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Dorchester County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

FREDERICK COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
46,957	7,711	14,926	51.7	16

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	4	1
Maryland Meals for Achievement	26	21

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	25%
Grab and Go	17%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	58%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go **17%**

Traditional **58%**

25% In the Classroom
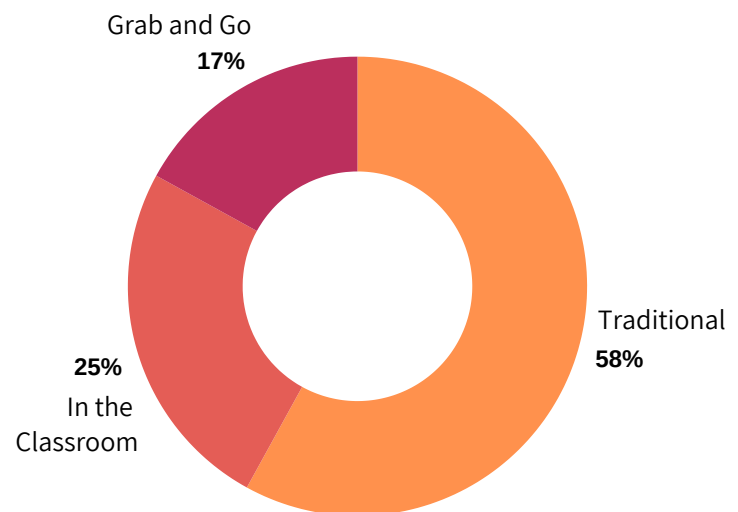
Participation Goal*

10,448 CHILDREN

would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

2,737 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN

would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

A-

School Breakfast Scorecard

GARRETT COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
3,584	1,622	2,002	81.0	5

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	3	1
Maryland Meals for Achievement	14	11

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	65%
Grab and Go	21%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	14%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go 21%

Traditional 14%

65% In the Classroom
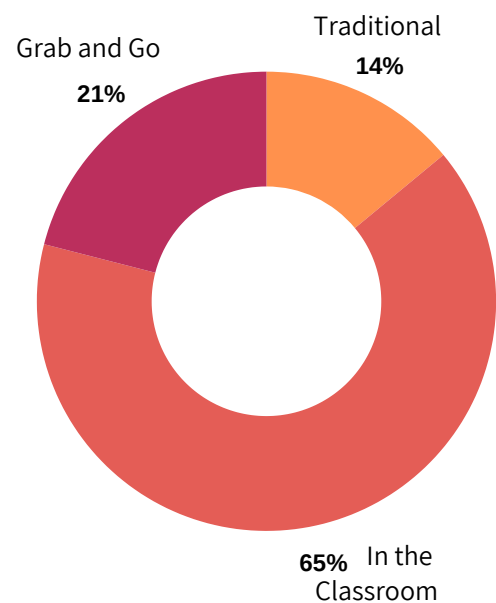
Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Garrett County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

TIME TO ACT

Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

School Breakfast Scorecard
HARFORD COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
38,082	7,733	19,481	39.7	23

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	15	7
Maryland Meals for Achievement	24	19

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	25%
Grab and Go	9%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	66%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go 9%

In the Classroom 25%

Traditional 66%
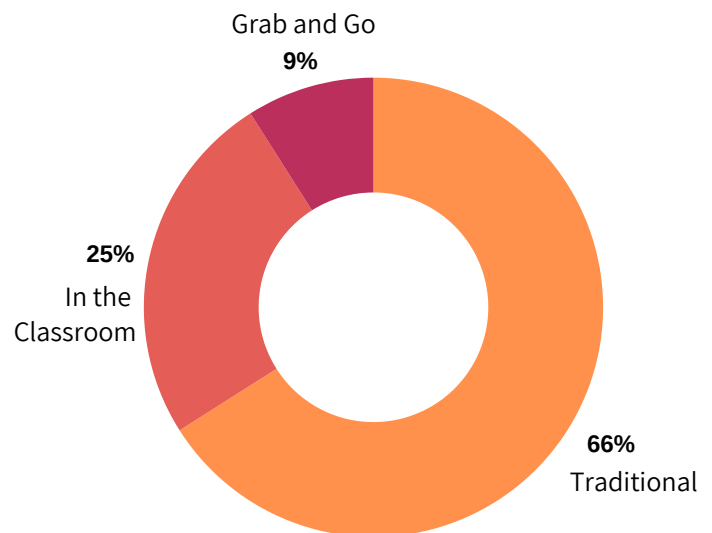
Participation Goal*

13,637 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

5,904 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

TIME TO ACT

School Breakfast Scorecard

HOWARD COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
57,822	7,583	18,019	42.1	22

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	2	3
Maryland Meals for Achievement	31	24

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	20%
Grab and Go	14%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	66%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go **14%**

20% In the Classroom

66% Traditional
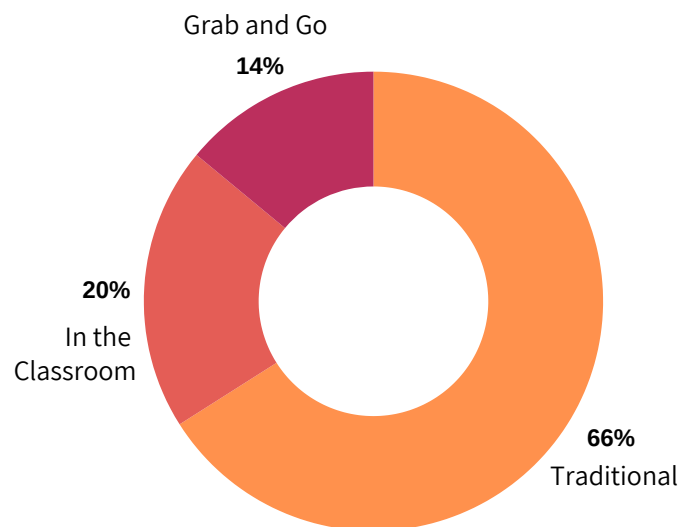
Participation Goal*

12,613 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

5,030 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

KENT COUNTY

A+

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
1,756	970	977	99.3	2

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	4	2
Maryland Meals for Achievement	5	5

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	100%
Grab and Go	0%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	0%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

100% In the Classroom

Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Kent County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

TIME TO ACT

School Breakfast Scorecard
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
161,474	30,071	60,673	49.6	17

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	2	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	117	88

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	42%
Grab and Go	12%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	46%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go **12%**

Traditional **46%**

42% In the Classroom
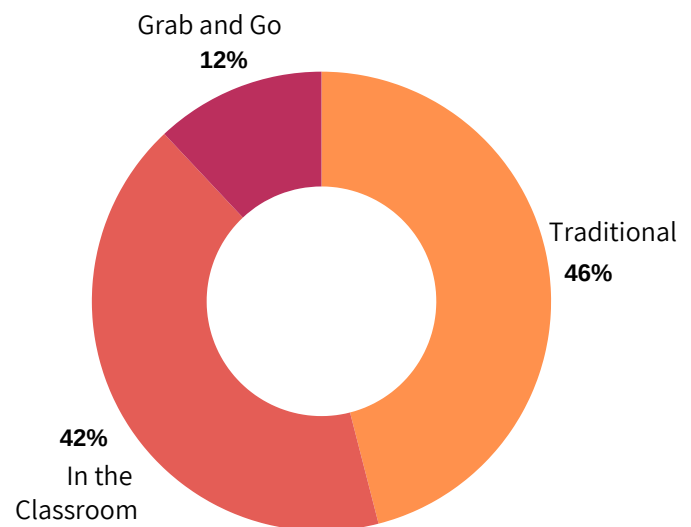
Participation Goal*

42,471 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

12,400 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

C+

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
131,945	38,746	66,341	58.4	14

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	33	19
Maryland Meals for Achievement	183	84

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	55%
Grab and Go	0%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	45%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Traditional **45%**

55% In the Classroom

Participation Goal*

46,439 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

7,693 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
7,413	1,157	2,740	42.2	20

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	1	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	5	3

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	100%
Grab and Go	0%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	0%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

100% In the Classroom

Participation Goal*

1,918 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

760 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

SOMERSET COUNTY

A+

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
2,786	1,775	1,697	104.6	1

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	Districtwide (9)	Districtwide (9)
Maryland Meals for Achievement	8	8

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	75%
Grab and Go	25%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	0%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go **25%**

75% In the Classroom
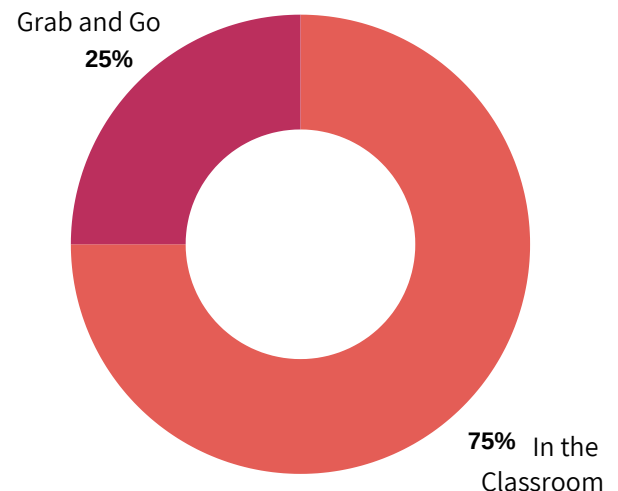
Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Somerset County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

C

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
17,485	4,153	7,180	57.8	15

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	3	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	14	11

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	41%
Grab and Go	59%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	0%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

41% In the Classroom

59% Grab and Go
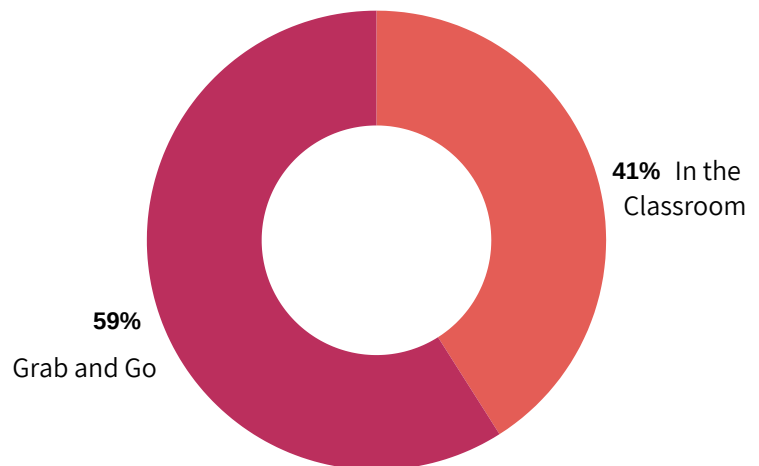
Participation Goal*

5,026 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

873 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

School Breakfast Scorecard
TALBOT COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
4,523	1,867	2,218	84.2	4

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	1	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	8	6

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	78%
Grab and Go	22%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	0%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go
22%

78% In the Classroom
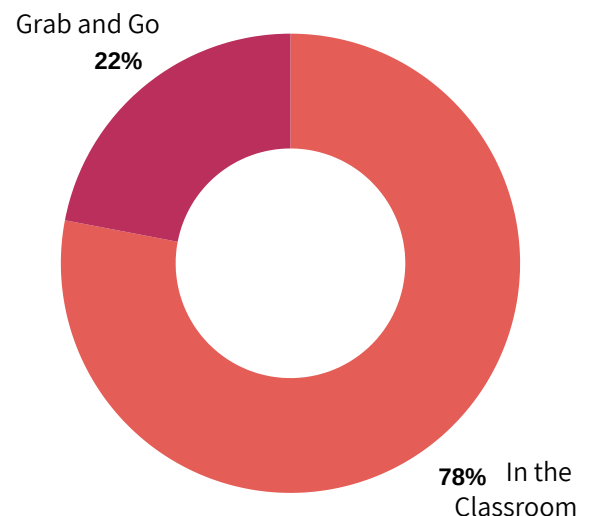
Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Talbot County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

School Breakfast Scorecard

WASHINGTON COUNTY

B

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
21,898	7,390	11,117	66.5	11

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	14	13
Maryland Meals for Achievement	36	28

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	26%
Grab and Go	28%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	46%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go 28%

Traditional 46%

In the Classroom 26%
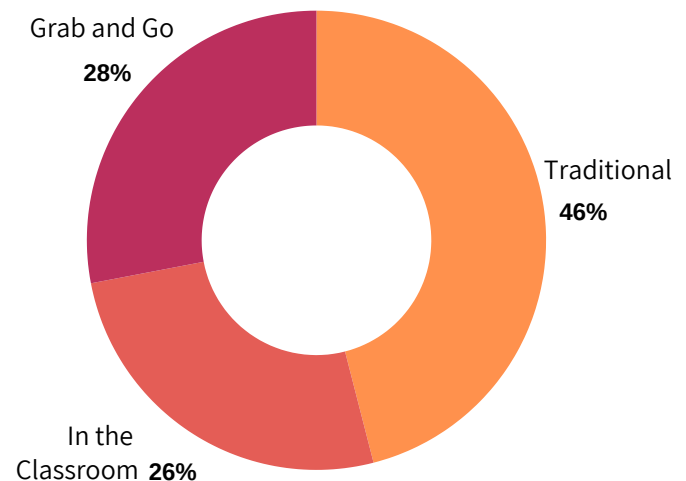
Participation Goal*

7,782 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

391 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

B+

School Breakfast Scorecard
WICOMICO COUNTY

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
14,990	6,247	9,079	68.8	9

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	Districtwide (26)	Districtwide (26)
Maryland Meals for Achievement	26	13

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	65%
Grab and Go	4%
Second Chance	0%
Traditional	31%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

Grab and Go 4%

Traditional 31%

65% In the Classroom
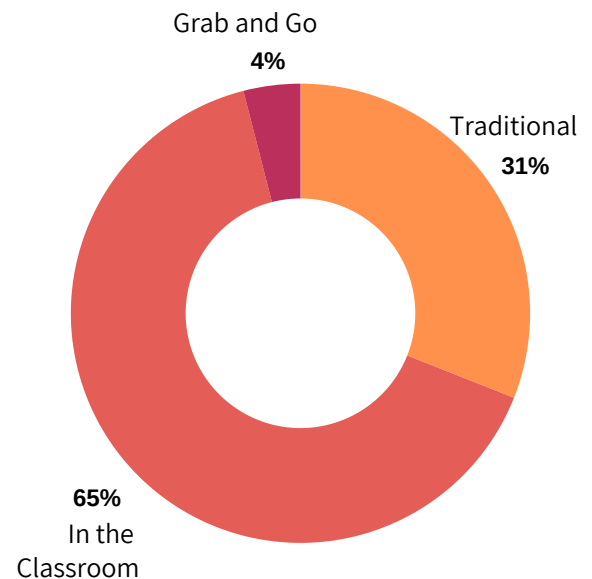
Participation Goal*

6,355 CHILDREN would have received a school breakfast on an average day if the national benchmark goal had been reached.

109 ADDITIONAL CHILDREN would need to have received a school breakfast each day in order to reach the national benchmark goal.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.

A-

School Breakfast Scorecard

WORCESTER COUNTY

Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

Student Participation in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Total Student Enrollment	Average Daily Participation (ADP) in SBP	ADP in NSLP	ADP in SBP per 100 Students Participating in NSLP	State Rank
6,853	2,106	2,620	80.4	6

Best Practices Used

Program	# of Eligible Schools	# of Participating Schools
Community Eligibility Provision*	6	0
Maryland Meals for Achievement	12	9

*CEP eligibility data is from the previous school year (2021–2022) as this reflects the data used by districts to make decisions on CEP implementation for school year 2022–2023.

Breakfast Delivery Method	Percentage of Schools Using Each Method*
In the Classroom	54%
Grab and Go	0%
Second Chance	15%
Traditional	31%

*Breakfast Delivery Method reporting did not include all Maryland schools and may not reflect the entire state or district. The percentage is based on the number of schools that reported using each method divided by total number of schools included in the report.

Breakfast Delivery Method Utilization

- Second Chance 15%
- Traditional 31%
- In the Classroom 54%
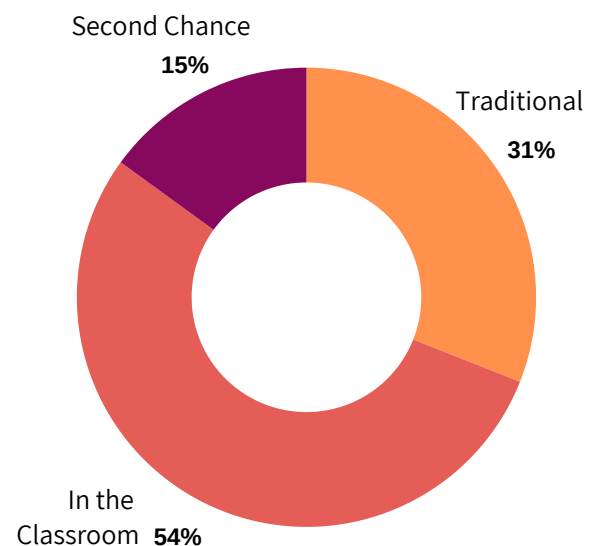
Participation Goal*

N/A   N/A

Worcester County reached the national benchmark goal of 70 students receiving a school breakfast for every 100 receiving a school lunch.

*Participation goal refers to FRAC's national benchmark of 70 students participating in SBP for every 100 participating in NSLP.