

**Fact Sheet:  
School Meal and Child and  
Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Utilization**

**California Working Families Policy Summit  
January 12, 2011**

**School Meal Facts for California's Public School Districts<sup>1</sup> based on 2009-10 School Year Data  
(See Table 1)**

1. The School Breakfast Program (SBP) does not reach 82% of students enrolled in California's public schools. (The average daily participation in SBP is 18% of total district enrollment.)
2. 54% of students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price (FRP) meals. (The total number of FRP-eligible students is 54% of total district enrollment.)
3. 2.2 million or 66% of FRP-eligible students<sup>2</sup> miss out on the benefits of school breakfast.<sup>3</sup> The average daily participation for FRP SBP is 34% of total FRP-eligible students.)
4. 56% of FRP-eligible students who eat school lunch do not eat school breakfast. (The average daily participation for FRP SBP is 44% of the average daily participation for FRP NSLP.)
5. Schools missed out on \$350 million in federal meal reimbursements during 2009-10 due to low school breakfast participation. (If average daily participation in SBP equaled the average daily participation in NSLP among FRP-eligible students, California's public schools would have received an addition \$350 million in federal meal reimbursements during 2009-10.)
6. The number of low-income students eligible for FRP meals increased by 4% in 2009-10 compared to 2008-09. The number of FRP-eligible students participating in NSLP increased by 7%. The number of FRP-eligible students participating in SBP increased by 10%.
7. While participation in FRP meals increased by a larger percentage than FRP-eligibility, 66% of low-income students still miss out on the benefits of school breakfast. (The average daily participation in FRP SBP is 34% of total FRP-eligible students.)

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**Table 1:  
Results from CFPA's Analysis of 2009-10 School Meal Data**

<b>Data Summary for CA Public School Districts<sup>1</sup></b> <i>All Participation Statistics reflect Average Daily Participation</i>	<b>2008-09 SY</b>	<b>2009-10 SY</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Total District Enrollment	6,167,807	6,107,275	-1%
Total FRP-Eligible Students <sup>2</sup>	3,156,183	3,279,182	4%
Enrollment in Districts Operating NSLP and/or SBP	6,004,720	5,947,291	-1%
FRP-Eligible Students in Districts Operating NSLP and/or SBP	3,107,473	3,222,256	4%
# of FRP-Eligible Students Participating in NSLP	2,145,390	2,291,274	7%
# of Paid Students Participating in NSLP	672,518	627,616	-7%
% of Total FRP-Eligible Students Participating in NSLP	68%	70%	not calculated
% of Total Paid Students Participating in NSLP	22%	22%	not calculated
# of FRP-Eligible Students Participating in SBP	911,345	998,106	10%
# of Paid Students Participating in SBP	122,664	122,049	-1%
% of Total FRP-Eligible Students Participating in SBP	29%	30%	not calculated
% of Total Paid Students Participating in SBP	4%	4%	not calculated
Difference in Average Daily Participation for NSLP and SBP among FRP-Eligible Students	1,234,045	1,293,169	5%
% NSLP Participants <b>not</b> Participating in SBP among FRP-Eligible Students	58%	56%	-2%
Additional Federal Reimbursement if Average Daily Participation in SBP Equaled NSLP Participation among FRP-Eligible Students <sup>2</sup>	\$317,648,089	\$351,452,624	11%

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**Table 2:  
California Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Enrollment and Participation (2008-9)**

Total CACFP Enrollment	441,602
Free Enrollment	327,085
Reduced Price Enrollment	27,098
Paid Enrollment	87,419
Average Daily Participation	331,452
Number of Center Sponsors*	841
Number of Approved Center Sites*	5,921
Number of Day Care Home Sponsors	52
Number of Approved Day Care Home Sites	21,355

\* Center sponsors and sites excludes after school sites and adult care centers.

**Table 3:  
Selected Child Care Statistics for California**

	Centers	Homes	Total
# of Licensed Child Care Sites	10,850	38,989	49,839
# of Children in Child Care Sites	693,267	379,676	1,072,943
# of Sites Participating in CACFP	5,921	21,355	27,276
# of Children in Sites Participating in CACFP	284,468	157,134	441,602
% of Sites Participating in CACFP	54.5%	54.7%	54.7%
% of Children Enrolled in Sites Participating in CACFP	41%	41%	41%

Data from Tables 2 and 3 are compiled from the California Department of Education’s Food Program Data (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sh/sn/>) and the California Resource and Referral Network’s Child Care Portfolio (<http://www.rrnetwork.org/our-research/child-care-portfolio.html>).

**Implementation of 2010 Legislation**

*In the fall of 2010, Governor Schwarzenegger signed two bills into law that improved the beverage environment for children in California.*

**AB 2084 (Brownley)** – AB 2084 establishes basic, straightforward nutrition standards for the beverages served in licensed child care settings. These standards are consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics. As of January 1, 2012, the following standards will apply to beverages served by child care providers in licensed child care settings:

- Only lowfat or nonfat milk to children over 2 years of age.
- No beverages with added sweeteners, natural or artificial.
- No more than one serving of 100 percent juice.
- Ensure clean and safe drinking water readily available for consumption throughout the day.

**SB 1413 (Leno)** – SB 1413 requires that schools make free, fresh drinking water available to students during school meals in food services areas of the school.

### **End Notes**

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- <sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this analysis “public school districts” do not include charter schools, state special schools, or sites operated by County Offices of Education (COE).
- <sup>2</sup> “FRP-eligible students” are those student reported as being eligible for free or reduced-price meals at public school sites not including charter schools, state special schools, or COE sites. School districts report this information through Part II of the Consolidated Application (ConApp).
- <sup>3</sup> The difference between average daily participation in FRP SBP and total FRP-eligible students is 2.2 million.