

Early Access to Healthy Foods

Trends in California's
Child and Adult Care Food Program
2010 to 2016

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California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) is a statewide public policy and advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and well being of low-income Californians by increasing their access to nutritious, affordable food.

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Foreword

One of our partners likes to say “Child Care is America’s Business.” We agree as child care fuels our economy by supporting our workforce and by supporting the healthy development of the next generation of American workers. Each and every workday parents throughout California drop their children off at child care. As they head off to work, they should do so with the confidence that their kids are safe. They should do so with the confidence that their child’s brain is continuing to grow and develop. And they should have the confidence that their child will be in a healthy environment with access to nutritious food. Policies and programs can help give parents that confidence.

Several years ago CFPA worked to successfully pass legislation that removed soda and other sugar-sweetened beverages from licensed child care. Parents can now drop their kids off with the confidence that they will have access to water, low-fat milk, and just one serving of 100 percent juice a day. Healthy beverages are an important part of creating healthy child care environments.

But what about food? How can parents have confidence that the meals and snacks in child care are nutritious? CFPA continues to develop policy in this area. But right now a clear indicator of good nutrition is participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Parents may not even be aware that their child care provider receives reimbursement for the meals and snacks their child receives – but if they did they could have the confidence their child is in a healthy environment. The research shows that participation in CACFP leads to the service of healthier foods.

However, as the report makes clear, participation in CACFP has dropped. And state investments ensuring that child care is available and accessible are inadequate. When you combine these existing problems with rising anxiety over potential negative federal policies that would further undermine child care, the need for action becomes even more clear.

Take a close look at the trends in the report. Then please join us by supporting investments that increase child care access, by taking action to increase CACFP participation, and by resisting federal efforts to undermine child care. Let’s support “America’s Business” by giving parents the confidence they need.



George Manalo-LeClair, Executive Director
California Food Policy Advocates

Acknowledgments

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Executive Summary

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is an important, but often unrecognized, component of child care. At its core, CACFP is a nutrition program that provides funding for healthy meals and snacks served to children in child care and other authorized facilities. The nutritional and financial benefits of CACFP are a cornerstone of its success. Young children spend a considerable amount of time in child care, which means child care providers play a significant role in shaping the healthy development of children. There is strong evidence showing that foods served through CACFP are superior in nutritional quality compared to foods provided without this valuable program's support.

Since 2010, the Great Recession has faded, but a substantial portion of Californians was left behind. Working families struggle with astronomical costs of living and extremely limited access to affordable child care. These factors impair access to healthy foods for California's youngest children.

CFPA conducted an analysis of CACFP access and participation trends across the state over a six-year period. We found that geography plays a significant role in a family's ability to access a CACFP-approved center or family child care home. We also saw declining trends in the number of meals served and the number of children benefitting from CACFP. Deep cuts to subsidized child care slots, along with the failure to restore badly needed state meal reimbursements, have weakened CACFP's ability to reach all the children in child care who could benefit from a nutritious meal or snack.

We propose a series of policy recommendations that would increase access to CACFP and support child care providers in providing the highest quality meals and care. This includes restoring state investments in child care nutrition, fully funding California's subsidized child care system, simplifying administration, better supporting small child care centers, and providing substantial support for the new meal pattern.

Introduction

Breast milk, vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and more – our young children need healthy foods to grow and thrive. Access to healthful foods from the very start is important for all children: nutrition preferences and habits start in the womb and develop within the first five years of life.¹ California has more than three million children between the ages of zero and five. More than 25 percent of these children live in poverty.² Young children are especially vulnerable to the negative impacts of food insecurity: poor nutrition affects a young child’s ability to learn and grow.³ The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides an opportunity to combat food insecurity and boost the nutritional quality of foods being served in the child care setting. CACFP also contributes to the financial stability of child care workers and families. This report examines access to and participation in CACFP among California children.

Background

The Child and Adult Care Food Program

CACFP is an important, but often unrecognized, component of child care. At its core, it is a nutrition program that provides funding for healthy meals and snacks served to children in child care and other authorized facilities.ⁱ In addition to making child care programs healthier and more affordable for low-income families, research has shown that CACFP is also linked to improved quality of care.^{4, 5} The federally-funded program is operated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and in California is administered by the state Department of Education (CDE). CDE grants permission to sponsors (qualified, local nonprofit organizations or public entities) to directly oversee CACFP in family child care homes and child care centers that are eligible and qualified to participate in the program. Family child care homes can only access the benefits of CACFP by enrolling in the program through a sponsor.

CACFP operates in a variety of settings. In this report, we focused only on programs that operate in the child care setting. These include all Head Start programs, most state-funded preschools, child care centers, and family child care homes.

CACFP Reaches Young Children Most in Need

All children age 12 and under attending approved child care facilities are eligible for meals and snacks served through CACFP, but federal funding targets children in low-income households. Centers are reimbursed for meals at three different rates

ⁱ This report focuses solely on CACFP in the child care setting. Other qualified settings, such as after-school programs or adult day care facilities, are not addressed.

depending on the individual child’s household income (see **Table 1**). CACFP facilities may charge families separate fees for meals, although the vast majority charges a single fee that covers meals, tuition, and other services.

Table 1. CACFP Centers, Per Meal Reimbursement Ratesⁱⁱ

Category of Reimbursement	Child’s Household Income ⁱⁱⁱ	Breakfast	Lunch & Supper	Snack
Paid	≥185% FPL	\$0.29	\$0.30	\$0.07
Reduced Price	130 – 185% FPL	\$1.41	\$2.76	\$0.43
Free	≤130% FPL	\$1.71	\$3.16	\$0.86

CACFP family child care homes are deemed eligible for either Tier I or Tier II reimbursement – based on provider income or business location – and the provider is reimbursed for all meals and snacks at that rate (see **Table 2**).

Table 2. CACFP Family Child Care Homes, Per Meal Reimbursement Rates

Category of Reimbursement	Eligibility ^{iv}	Breakfast	Lunch & Supper	Snack
Tier I	Provider income is ≤185% FPL; or business is located in low income area based on school enrollment or census block group data	\$1.31	\$2.46	\$0.73
Tier II	Provider income >185% FPL; business not located in low-income area	\$0.48	\$1.49	\$0.20

Children whose families participate in CalFresh, CalWORKS, or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations are automatically eligible for free or Tier I meals. Children who are participants of Head Start programs, foster children, and children who are experiencing homelessness, are also automatically eligible for free or Tier I meals.

ⁱⁱ CACFP rates listed for centers and family child care homes are effective July 1, 2016 to June 20, 2017.

ⁱⁱⁱ [Federal poverty level \(FPL\) guidelines](#) are set annually by the U.S. Health & Human Services Agency.

^{iv} *Note:* A provider in a Tier II home may elect to have their sponsor identify income-eligible children in their care in order to be reimbursed at the higher Tier I rates for the meals and snacks served just to those children.

CACFP Supports Healthy Foods and High Quality Child Care

The nutritional and financial benefits of CACFP are a cornerstone of its success. Young children spend a considerable amount of time in child care, which means child care providers play a significant role in shaping the healthy development of children.⁶ There is strong evidence showing that foods served through CACFP are superior in nutritional quality compared to foods provided without this valuable program's support. The reimbursements provided through CACFP can be a financial stabilizer for child care businesses and a meaningful support for low-income families.⁷

In 2010, Congress passed the *Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010*, which instructed USDA to better align the CACFP meal pattern with the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. In April 2016, the USDA released a final rule for the healthier CACFP meal pattern. This is the first major update of the CACFP meal pattern since the program's inception in 1968. Changes to the CACFP meal pattern become official in fall 2017.

CACFP in Context

Since 2010, the Great Recession has faded, but a substantial portion of Californians was left behind. Many young working families struggle with astronomical costs of living and extremely limited access to affordable child care. These factors impair access to healthy foods for California's youngest children.

California's real poverty rate is over 20 percent^v

While poverty rates have slightly decreased over the past several years, 8 million Californians continue to live in poverty.⁸ There is little debate that the strikingly high cost of living in California, including the cost of child care, is a major contributor to our high poverty rate – the highest in the nation. Even many of California's working families with moderate incomes struggle to make ends meet, and yet they often don't qualify for support from safety net programs. For example, a single mom with two children making just \$37,296 a year (185 percent of federal poverty guidelines) may find herself having to make the difficult choice between work and child care.

Child care is not affordable and there are limited slots available

Significant state and federal policy changes have eroded the availability of affordable child care for families, and put many child care providers out of business. Since 2010, child care in California has suffered excruciating cuts. Funding for subsidized care is

^v This figure reflects average annual poverty rates from 2013-2015, as calculated by the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM). Because the SPM address a number of shortcomings, is deemed by many as a more accurate indicator of economic hardship than the official poverty measure.

\$700 million below pre-recession investments, which resulted in the elimination of over 70,000 slots.⁹ Meanwhile, the state has lowered the income limit for families seeking subsidized care and failed to adequately update reimbursement rates for providers. These policy decisions mean there are fewer child care facilities overall and greater financial hardship on our most vulnerable families.

In recent years, state policymakers have slowly begun to reinvest in child care, adding slots and incremental reimbursement increases. Nonetheless, annual funding for child care remains below pre-recession levels and millions of eligible children miss out on state-funded child care programs.¹⁰ When parents don't have access to affordable child care, children lose opportunities to learn and grow, including access to healthy meals and snacks through CACFP.

California disinvested in child care nutrition

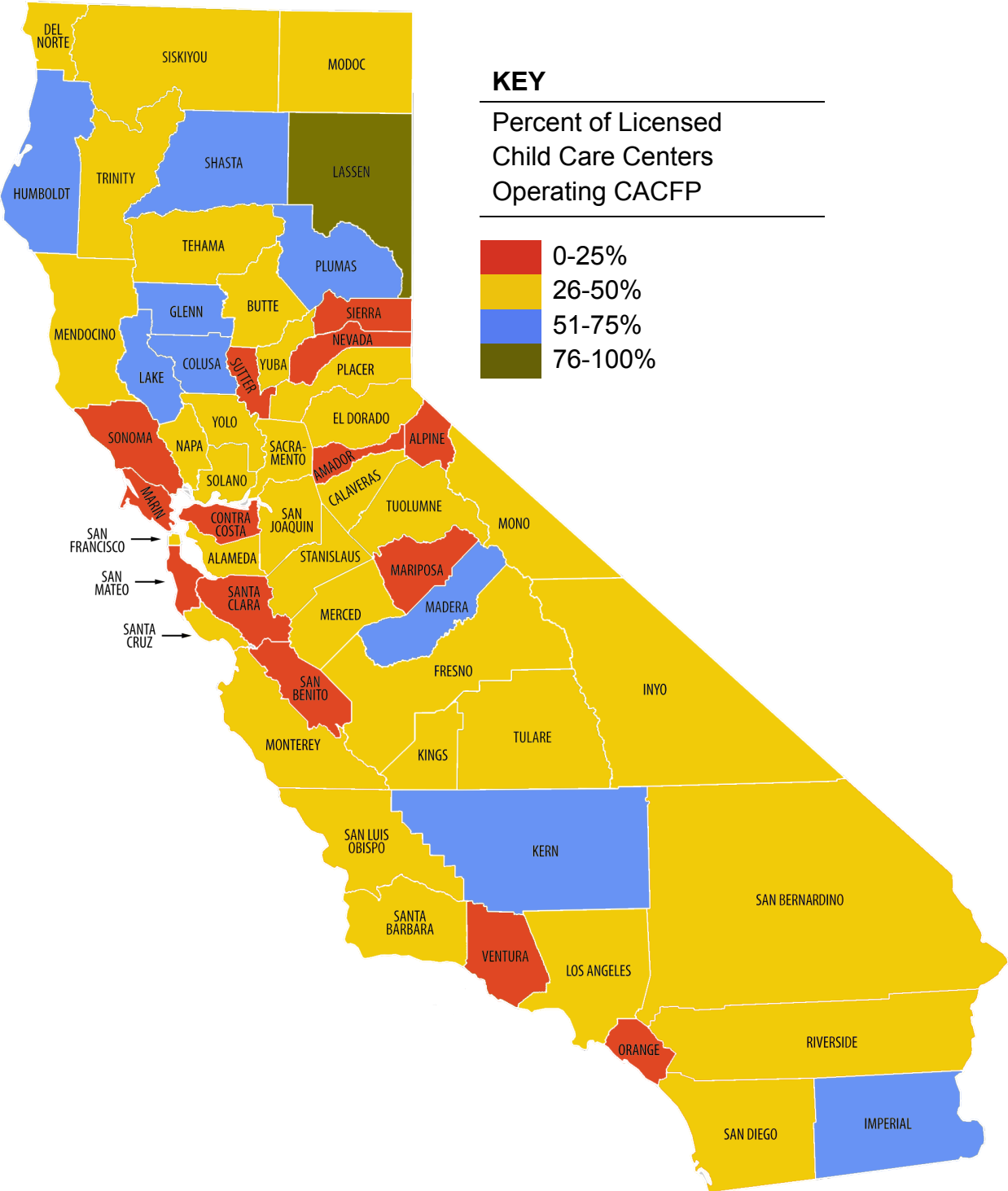
Since as far back as 1975, California has provided state funding to supplement the meager federal reimbursements for meals and snacks in CACFP. But in 2012, as a deficit reduction measure at the height of the Recession, Governor Brown eliminated \$10.1 million from the state budget, designated for state supplemental meal reimbursement for CACFP. Following this damaging budget cut, CACFP centers reported losing an average of \$8,270 from their annual budgets and sponsors reported losing an average of \$28,500 in administrative reimbursements. Many centers and family child care homes dropped out of the CACFP program entirely as a result of the budget cut.

Advocacy efforts by child care stakeholders in 2013 and 2014 successfully moved the state Legislature to restore the funding for CACFP state meal reimbursements in their version of the budget. Despite these hard-fought efforts, Governor Brown ignored the call from the Legislature to reinstate the supplemental funding, and deleted this item from the final budget in both years.

Child Care Center CACFP Trends

In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015, more than 60 million breakfasts and lunches were served in child care centers, more than \$267 million in federal reimbursements were received, and nearly \$1.9 million in state reimbursement were distributed through CACFP. In 2016, approximately 3,400 child care centers, or 31 percent of all licensed centers in the state, were approved to operate CACFP. Below, you will find summaries of statewide data exploring trends in access, enrollment, average daily participation, and meals served in child care centers.

Figure 1. Map depicting the percent of licensed child care centers that operate CACFP in each county in 2016.



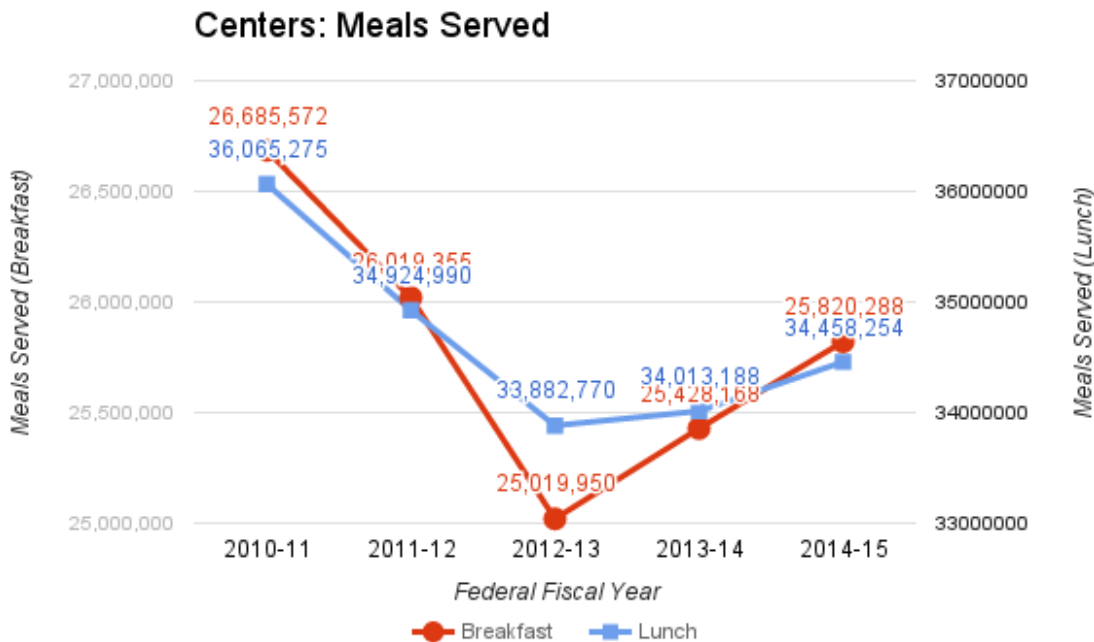
Geography determines access to CACFP-approved centers

Fewer than one-third of California’s child care centers, or 3,396 out of 10,937, are approved to operate CACFP. **Figure 1** illustrates the disparities between counties with CACFP-approved centers. Three counties (Alpine, Mariposa, and Sierra) do not have **any** licensed centers approved to operate CACFP, while only one county has widespread center approval for CACFP (Lassen, 83 percent). For Los Angeles and San Diego counties, which have the state’s two largest child populations, only 36 and 26 percent, respectively, of centers are approved to operate CACFP. As one might expect, in communities where the average household income is higher, such as Marin County, the ratio of CACFP-approved centers tends to be lower, because the program is designed to target regions serving higher concentrations of low-income children. For complete county-level data, see Appendix A.

Fewer CACFP meals being served at child care centers

Since FFY 2010-11, there has been an overall decrease in the number of breakfasts and lunches served – nearly 2.5 million fewer meals in FFY 2014-15 than in 2011-12 (see **Figure 2**). The number of breakfasts and lunches served was lowest in FFY 2012-13 (the same year Governor Brown eliminated supplemental state funding for CACFP). Access to meals has begun to rise again since FFY 2012-13 but not to 2010 levels.

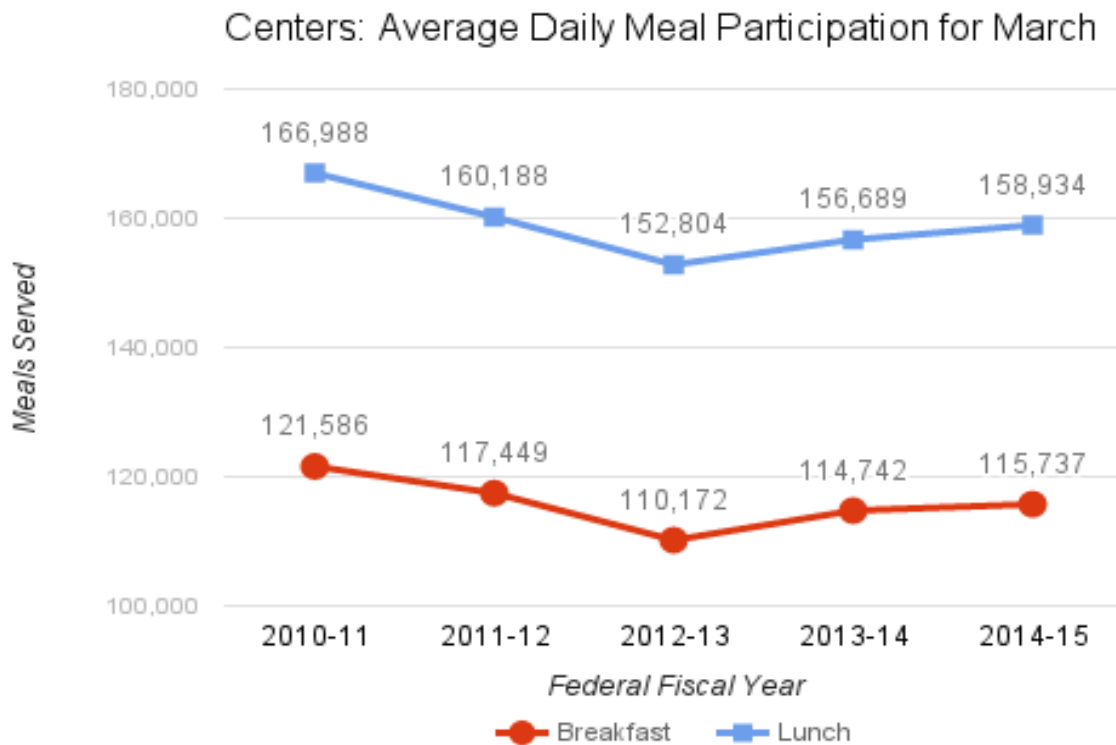
Figure 2. Total meals served, by breakfast and lunch, in child care centers statewide between 2010 and 2015.



Fewer children are benefitting from CACFP meals

On an average day in California during March 2015, nearly 116,000 children participated in breakfast and nearly 159,000 children participated in lunch in CACFP centers (see **Figure 3**). Compared to FY 2010-11, there were nearly 13,000 fewer children participating on an average day in CACFP meals (lunch and breakfast) at child care centers.

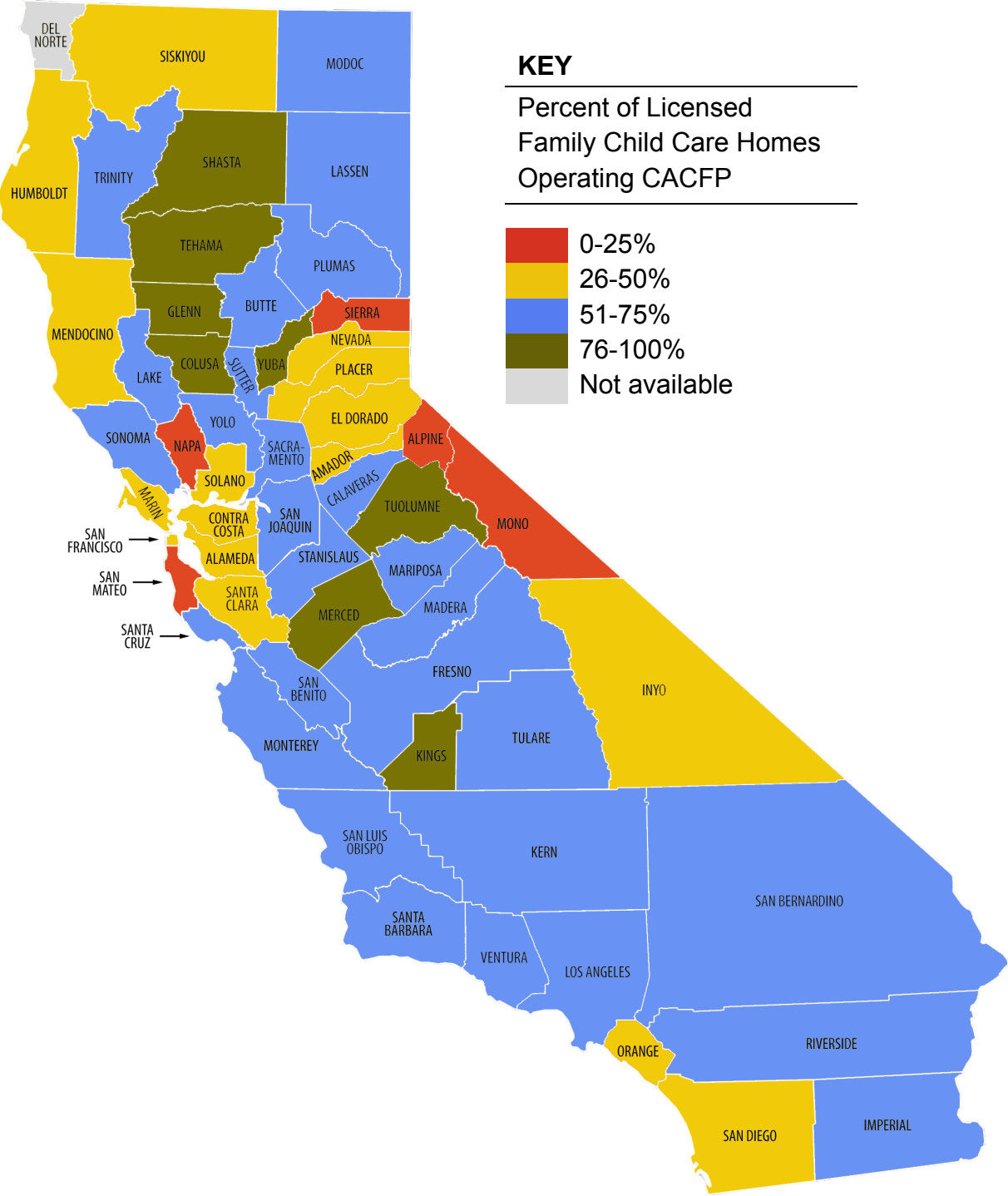
Figure 3. Average daily participation by breakfast and lunch in child care centers statewide between 2010 and 2015.



Family Child Care Home CACFP Trends

In 2015, nearly 47 million breakfasts and lunches were served in family child care homes, more than \$121 million were received in federal reimbursements, and only \$176,000 in state reimbursements were distributed through CACFP. In 2016, nearly 14,616 family child care homes, 52 percent of all licensed family child care homes in the state, were approved to operate CACFP. Below, you will find summaries of statewide data exploring trends in access, enrollment, average daily participation, and meals served in family child care homes.

Figure 4. Map depicting the percent of licensed family child care homes that operate CACFP in each county in 2016.



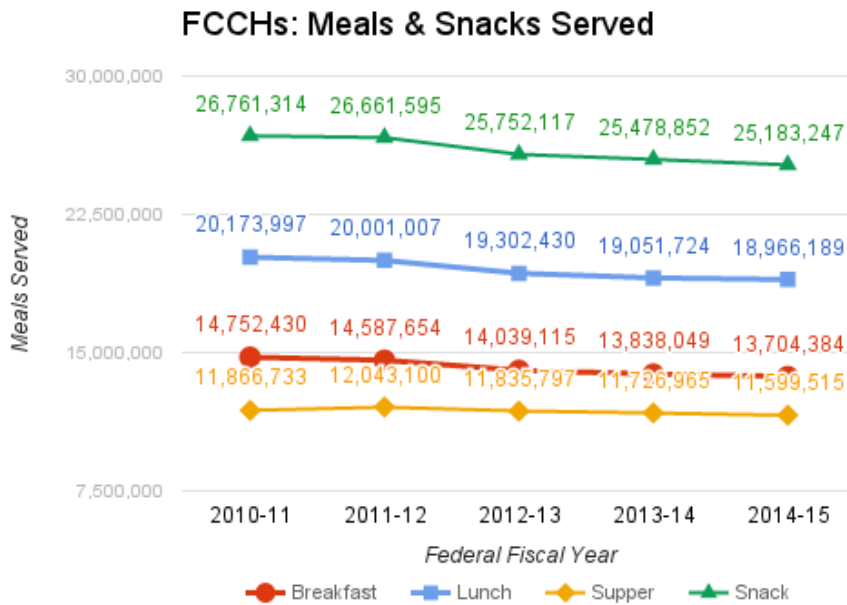
Inequitable access to CACFP family child care homes across the state

In 2016, about 14,600 family child care homes were approved to operate CACFP in California – just over half of all licensed homes.^{vi} **Figure 4** illustrates the great variation among counties. In Fresno, Merced, and Tulare counties, where the percent of children under age 12 living in poverty is the highest, 72 percent to 82 percent of family child care homes are approved to operate CACFP.¹¹ Mono, Alpine, and Sierra counties have some of the lowest CACFP participation rates (0 percent to 20 percent). These low rates likely reflect limited licensed family child care (none in Alpine) and limited sponsor access (no sponsors currently fully cover these three counties). For complete county-level data, see Appendix B.

Meals and snacks decline with family child care availability

Between 2010 and 2014 California lost nearly 55,000 licensed family child care slots. Concurrently the number of meals and snacks served in CACFP family child care homes also decreased. In 2010, 15 million breakfasts, 20 million lunches, 12 million suppers, and 27 million snacks were served in CACFP family child care homes across California. Five years later a total of four million fewer meals and snacks were served (see **Figure 5**).

Figure 5. Total meals and snacks served in family child care homes statewide between 2010 and 2015.

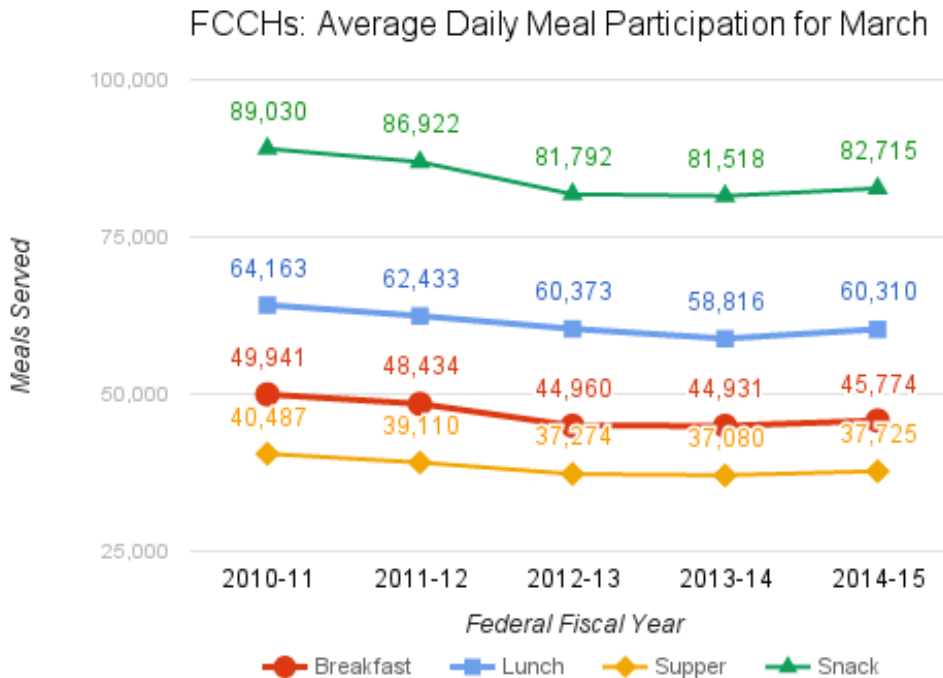


^{vi} To be eligible for CACFP, a family child care home must be licensed or certified as Trustline (licensed-exempt, but registered). Our data does not include Trustline providers in the count of total licensed family child care providers; this is a limitation of our analyses. We do not believe the inclusion of Trustline providers would make a dramatic difference in our results, because the vast majority of family child care providers approved for CACFP in California are licensed.

Fewer children at family child care homes are served by CACFP

On an average day in California in March 2015, more than 60,000 children were served lunch, nearly 46,000 children for breakfast, about 38,000 children for supper, and nearly 83,000 children were served a snack in CACFP family child care homes – this is about 17,000 fewer children participating on an average day across all meals and snacks as compared to FFY 2010-11. Following trends for availability of licensed slots and meals served, this is a decrease over the average daily participation in 2011. Since FFY 2010-11, average daily participation decreased by eight percent for breakfast, six percent for lunch, and seven percent for supper and snack (see **Figure 6**).

Figure 6. Average daily participation in CACFP at family child care homes statewide between 2010 and 2015.



Conclusions: CACFP Hurt by Child Care Hits

While California’s child poverty rates skyrocketed during the Recession, our already frayed child care system was further weakened, including the critical nutrition supports provided by CACFP. All of the measures included in this report show that access to and participation in CACFP have declined across California since 2010. Despite some signs that CACFP participation is beginning to revive, there is still great need: California has

many pockets of high and persistent childhood poverty.^{vii} In Fresno, Merced, and Tulare counties about 40 percent of children under age 12, more than 1.3 million youth, are living in poverty. In Fresno, Imperial, Madera, Tulare, and Yuba counties child poverty is painfully persistent, measuring at 20 percent or more for the last 30 years.⁸ These counties, in particular, could use a concentrated infusion of programs like high-quality child care – enhanced by CACFP.

Despite a vast body of research demonstrating that public spending on child care reaps a high return on investment, California's child care system has endured more than its fair share of cuts.¹² Deep cuts to subsidized child care slots, along with the failure to restore badly needed state meal reimbursements, have weakened CACFP's ability to reach all the children in child care who could benefit from a nutritious meal or snack. When child care providers aren't adequately reimbursed, when the state doesn't allocate sufficient subsidized child care slots, and, as a result, when families are forced to make tough decisions about child care, the benefits of CACFP go untapped. Working families and their young children are the ultimate losers of this inequitable equation.

Policy Recommendations

Restore State Investments in Child Care Nutrition

Eliminating the state meal reimbursement in 2012 decreased access to CACFP and decreased resources for CACFP providers. For just a few pennies per CACFP meal, our state can enhance the provision of more than 93 million nutritious meals each year, help ensure our most vulnerable children have access to healthy meals, and draw down additional federal dollars.

- ✓ California's state policymakers should [reinstate a \\$0.16 per meal reimbursement](#) for providers participating in CACFP.

Increase Public Investments in Subsidized Child Care

Without access to high-quality child care, parents miss out on work opportunities and children miss out on the developmental, social, emotional, and nutritional benefits. Without a properly funded child care system, CACFP will never fully reach children in need.

- ✓ California's state policymakers must [adequately fund](#) a subsidized child care system for all of those in need.

^{vii} Persistent child poverty counties are defined as those with related child poverty rates of 20 percent or more over the last 30 years (measured by the 1980, 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and 2007-11 American Community Survey 5-year estimates).

Simplify Administration of CACFP

Federal changes made over 20 years ago continue to make CACFP a complicated program to operate. Too many children miss out on the benefits of healthy meals and snacks because reimbursements are insufficient to cover the cost of operating the regulation-heavy program.

- ✓ USDA should implement the detailed recommendations of its own Paperwork Reduction Task Force, which would streamline access, simplify monitoring and reporting processes, and continue to protect program integrity functions.
- ✓ CDE should provide proactive leadership in working with USDA and the Child Care Food Program Roundtable to implement existing flexibilities, as described in USDA's recent report to Congress, [Reducing Paperwork in the Child and Adult Care Food Program](#).

Increase Sponsorship for Independent Child Care Centers

The largest and fastest growing proportion of children in care can be found at child care centers. But all too often child care centers decide not to operate CACFP because the administrative burden is too much for their small businesses. Adopting a sponsor to manage the administrative aspects of CACFP could better support these centers.

- ✓ CDE should actively promote CACFP sponsorship for independent child care centers, targeting efforts to counties of high need, as a strategy to increase access to CACFP in child care center settings.
- ✓ State policymakers should pilot-test the return on investment for offering a small stipend or other incentive to CACFP Sponsors in a county of high need to provide sponsorship to local independent child care centers.

Provide Substantial Support to Child Care Providers for the New Meal Pattern.

The update to the meal pattern is an important step towards aligning CACFP with modern nutrition science. Without a high level of support, child care providers may drop the program and children will lose access to CACFP.

- ✓ CDE and sponsors must provide trainings, resources, and technical assistance to child care providers. This includes in-person regional trainings and online trainings with necessary translation services in addition to materials that are easy to read and address the implementation concerns of providers.

Appendix A: Access to CACFP Centers County Data

Licensed Child Care Centers Approved to Operate CACFP by County

Location	Licensed Centers Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)	Licensed Centers (2016)	Percent of Licensed Centers Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)
Statewide	3,396	10,937	31%
Alameda	173	562	31%
Alpine	0	2	0%
Amador	3	15	20%
Butte	34	88	39%
Calaveras	8	16	50%
Colusa	9	13	69%
Contra Costa	50	345	14%
Del Norte	4	10	40%
El Dorado	21	67	31%
Fresno	108	308	35%
Glenn	6	10	60%
Humboldt	32	58	55%
Imperial	30	59	51%
Inyo	6	13	46%
Kern	104	188	55%
Kings	18	45	40%
Lake	13	21	62%
Lassen	10	12	83%
Los Angeles	997	2,776	36%
Madera	33	48	69%
Marin	24	120	20%
Mariposa	0	6	0%
Mendocino	16	38	42%
Merced	36	90	40%
Modoc	3	7	43%
Mono	4	9	44%
Monterey	41	124	33%
Napa	19	53	36%
Nevada	6	35	17%
Orange	159	807	20%

Licensed Child Care Centers Approved to Operate CACFP by County, continued

Location	Licensed Centers Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)	Licensed Centers (2016)	Percent of Licensed Centers Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)
Placer	28	107	26%
Plumas	6	9	67%
Riverside	124	382	32%
Sacramento	164	443	37%
San Benito	5	21	24%
San Bernardino	118	411	29%
San Diego	229	879	26%
San Francisco	109	296	37%
San Joaquin	70	212	33%
San Luis Obispo	27	101	27%
San Mateo	46	273	17%
Santa Barbara	57	155	37%
Santa Clara	81	611	13%
Santa Cruz	31	105	30%
Shasta	44	69	64%
Sierra	0	1	0%
Siskiyou	7	20	35%
Solano	31	93	33%
Sonoma	36	153	24%
Stanislaus	56	133	42%
Sutter	8	38	21%
Tehama	12	28	43%
Trinity	2	4	50%
Tulare	45	111	41%
Tuolumne	7	17	41%
Ventura	55	227	24%
Yolo	26	74	35%
Yuba	5	19	26%

Appendix B: Access to CACFP Family Child Care County Data

Licensed Family Child Care Homes Approved to Operate CACFP by County

Location	Licensed FCCHs Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)	Licensed FCCHs (2016)	Percent of Licensed FCCHs Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)
Statewide	14,616	27,852	52%
Alameda	572	1,461	39%
Alpine	0	0	0%
Amador	15	36	42%
Butte	91	128	71%
Calaveras	19	31	61%
Colusa	46	47	98%
Contra Costa	404	1,013	40%
Del Norte	25	Not Available	Not Available
El Dorado	41	86	48%
Fresno	420	584	72%
Glenn	34	41	83%
Humboldt	62	129	48%
Imperial	188	253	74%
Inyo	8	25	32%
Kern	386	629	61%
Kings	114	142	80%
Lake	35	61	57%
Lassen	7	12	58%
Los Angeles	3,202	5,999	53%
Madera	95	147	65%
Marin	51	162	31%
Mariposa	12	16	75%
Mendocino	32	80	40%
Merced	173	212	82%
Modoc	10	14	71%
Mono	0	15	0%
Monterey	269	390	69%
Napa	19	84	23%
Nevada	19	60	32%
Orange	463	1,133	41%

Licensed Family Child Care Homes Approved to Operate CACFP by County, continued

Location	Licensed FCCHs Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)	Licensed FCCHs (2016)	Percent of Licensed FCCHs Approved to Operate CACFP (2016)
Placer	134	306	44%
Plumas	12	22	55%
Riverside	856	1,515	57%
Sacramento	790	1,327	60%
San Benito	56	80	70%
San Bernardino	595	1,070	56%
San Diego	1,614	3,275	49%
San Francisco	316	697	45%
San Joaquin	442	657	67%
San Luis Obispo	141	241	59%
San Mateo	123	608	20%
Santa Barbara	242	370	65%
Santa Clara	413	1,558	27%
Santa Cruz	203	318	64%
Shasta	109	118	92%
Sierra	1	5	20%
Siskiyou	14	32	44%
Solano	213	447	48%
Sonoma	242	378	64%
Stanislaus	238	338	70%
Sutter	57	85	67%
Tehama	45	48	94%
Trinity	7	11	64%
Tulare	334	460	73%
Tuolumne	24	30	80%
Ventura	414	600	69%
Yolo	122	229	53%
Yuba	47	62	76%

Technical Appendix

This appendix provides details about the data sources and methodology used in this report.

Licensed Sites: Child Care Centers

Data Source

- California Department of Social Services
 - Licensed child care centers, 2016
 - Accessed on 11/23/2016 from <https://secure.dss.ca.gov/CareFacilitySearch/Home/DownloadData>

Notes

- This estimate describes the number of licensed child care centers, statewide and per county, in November 2016.
- Includes only sites where the facility status is listed as “licensed” or “on probation” to exclude closed and unlicensed sites and sites with pending or inactive licenses.
- Excludes facility types listed as “school age day care center” to better represent sites serving infants and preschool age children.
- Excludes facilities that listed duplicate address and zip code to properly account for sites that carry multiple licenses.

Licensed Sites: Family Child Care Homes

Data Sources

- The Child Care Resource and Referral Network
 - Licensed family child care homes, July 2016
 - All counties, except for Del Norte and Inyo
 - Provided on 2/27/2017
- Inyo County Health and Human Services
 - Licensed family child care homes, 2016
 - Provided on 3/2/2017

Sites Approved to Operate CACFP: Child Care Centers

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Yearly data for 2016
 - Data downloaded from <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/cc/mgmb.asp>

Notes

- The analysis of these data excluded adult centers, school age centers, and other non-traditional child care sites (sites primarily serving young children).

Percent of Sites Approved to Operate CACFP: Child Care Centers

Data Sources

- California Department of Education: Sites Approved to Operate CACFP (see above)
- California Department of Social Services: Licensed Sites (see above)

Sample Calculations

- Per County and Statewide
[Sum of sites approved to operate CACFP] ÷
[Sum of licensed sites] =
Percent of licensed sites approved to operate CACFP

Sites Approved to Operate CACFP: Family Child Care Homes

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Yearly data for 2016
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Percent of Sites Approved to Operate CACFP: Family Child Care Homes

Data Sources

- California Department of Education: Sites Approved to Operate CACFP (see above)
- The Child Care Resource and Referral Network: Licensed Sites (see above)
- Inyo County Health and Human Services (see above)

Sample Calculations

- Per County and Statewide
[Sum of sites approved to operate CACFP] ÷
[Sum of licensed sites] =
Percent of licensed sites approved to operate CACFP

Meals Served: Child Care Centers

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly claim data including meal counts, by sponsor, for federal fiscal years 2011-2015
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- These statewide estimates describe the number of CACFP breakfasts and lunches served annually by child care centers for the federal fiscal years 2010-2015.
- Estimates were not calculated for suppers or snacks. These records were excluded in an effort to distinguish between traditional CACFP and the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool program.

Meals Served: Family Child Care Homes

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly claim data including meal counts, by sponsor, for federal fiscal years 2011-2015
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- These statewide estimates describe the number of CACFP breakfasts, lunches, suppers, and snacks served annually by family child care homes for the federal fiscal years 2011-2015.

Average Daily Meal Participation: Centers

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly claim data including average daily participation, by sponsor, for federal fiscal years 2011-2015
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- These statewide estimates describe the average daily meal participation for CACFP breakfast and lunch in child care centers during the month of March for federal fiscal years 2011-2015.
- The month of March was selected for these calculations to avoid seasonal discrepancies caused by summer vacation, winter holidays, and other such events.
- Average daily participation was calculated by CDE at the sponsor level for each monthly record of claim data.

Sample Calculations

- Per Sponsor
[Sum of breakfasts served in March of FFY 2010-11] ÷
[Highest number of operating days in March of FFY 2010-11] =
Average daily participation in breakfast for March FFY 2010-11
- Statewide Estimate = Sum of sponsors' average daily participation in breakfast for March FFY 2010-11
- Note: "highest number of operating days" describes, among all sites affiliated with a given sponsor, the highest number of days for which CACFP meals were served in a given month

Average Daily Meal Participation: Family Child Care Homes

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly claim data including average daily participation, by sponsor, for federal fiscal years 2011-2015
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- These statewide estimates describe the average daily meal participation for CACFP breakfasts, lunches, suppers, and snacks in family child care homes during the month of March for federal fiscal years 2011-2015.
- The month of March was selected for these calculations to avoid seasonal discrepancies caused by summer vacation, winter holidays, and other such events.
- Average daily participation was calculated by CDE at the sponsor level for each monthly record of claim data.

Sample Calculations

- Per Sponsor

$$\frac{[\text{Sum of breakfasts served in March of FFY 2010-11}]}{[\text{Highest number of operating days in March of FFY 2010-11}]} = \text{Average daily participation in breakfast for March FFY 2010-11}$$
- Statewide Estimate = Sum of sponsors' average daily participation in breakfast for March FFY 2010-11
- Note: "highest number of operating days" describes, among all sites affiliated with a given sponsor, the highest number of days for which CACFP meals were served in a given month

Child Care Slots: Centers, Family Child Care Homes, and Total

Data Source

- Kidsdata.org
 - Number of Child Care Slots in Licensed Facilities, by Type of Facility; Statewide and per County; 2010, 2012, 2014
 - Accessed on 11/23/2016
 - According to kidsdata.org
 - Definition: Number of slots in licensed child care centers and family child care homes.
 - Data Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, California Child Care Portfolio (Nov. 2015).
 - Footnote: A child care slot is a space for one child in a child care center or family child care home. However, due to shortages of qualified staff and other issues, many licensed providers do not fill all of their slots. In these cases, the number of slots actually is greater than the number of spaces available in a facility. As a result, the number of slots likely overestimates the quantity of child care that is actually available. Child care centers are facilities that provide care for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and/or school-age children during all or part of the day. These facilities may be large or small and can be operated independently by nonprofit organizations or by churches, school districts, or other organizations. Most are licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). In family child care homes, care is offered in the home of the provider, often a parent; care is typically

provided for children of a variety of ages. Data for some counties are not available and are listed as N/A.

Federally Funded Meal Reimbursements: Centers

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly data enumerating federally funded reimbursements, by sponsor, for federal fiscal year 2016.
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- This statewide estimate describes the amount of federally funded reimbursement received for CACFP meals served in child care centers during FFY 2016.

State-Funded Meal Reimbursements: Centers

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly data enumerating state-funded reimbursements, by sponsor, for federal fiscal year 2016.
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- This statewide estimate describes the amount of state-funded reimbursement received for CACFP meals served in child care centers during FFY 2016.

Federally Funded Meal Reimbursements: Family Child Care Homes

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly data enumerating federally funded reimbursements, by sponsor, for federal fiscal year 2016.
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- This statewide estimate describes the amount of federally funded reimbursement received by child care providers for CACFP meals served in family child care homes during FFY 2016.
- This calculation excludes the federally funded reimbursement received by CACFP sponsors for administrative costs.

State-Funded Meal Reimbursements: Family Child Care Homes

Data Source

- California Department of Education
 - Monthly data enumerating state-funded reimbursements, by sponsor, for federal fiscal year 2016.
 - Data provided directly to CFPA from CDE

Notes

- This statewide estimate describes the amount of state-funded reimbursement received by child care providers for CACFP meals served in family child care homes during FFY 2016.

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