

Statewide School Meal Statistics (2009-10)

This table highlights the results of an analysis conducted by California Food Policy Advocates with data provided by the California Department of Education – Nutrition Services Division. All participation statistics reflect average daily participation.

Row ID	California Public School Districts ¹	2008-09 School Year	2009-10 School Year	Percent Change
A	Total Student Enrollment	6,167,807	6,107,275	-1%
B	Total Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price School Meals (FRP-Eligible Students) ²	3,156,183	3,279,182	4%
C	FRP-Eligible Students Participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) ³	2,145,390	2,291,274	7%
D	Paid Students Participating in NSLP ³	672,518	627,616	-7%
E	Percent of Total FRP-Eligible Students Participating in NSLP	68%	70%	not calculated
F	Percent of Total Paid Students Participating in NSLP	22%	22%	not calculated
G	FRP-Eligible Students Participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP)	911,345	998,106	10%
H	Paid Students Participating in SBP	122,664	122,049	-1%
I	Percent of Total FRP-Eligible Students Participating in SBP	29%	30%	not calculated
J	Percent of Total Paid Students Participating in SBP	4%	4%	not calculated
K	Among FRP-Eligible Students, NSLP Participants not Participating in SBP	1,234,045	1,293,169	5%
L	Among FRP-Eligible Students, Percent of NSLP Participants not Participating in SBP	58%	56%	not calculated
M	Additional Federal Meal Reimbursements Received if SBP Participation Equaled NSLP Participation among FRP-Eligible Students ⁴	\$317,648,089	\$351,452,624	11%

All statistics rounded to the nearest whole number.

School Meal Facts for California's Public School Districts¹ (2009-10)

- The School Breakfast Program does not reach 82% of students enrolled in California's public schools.
- 54% of California's public school students are eligible to receive free or reduced-price (FRP) meals.
- 2.3 million or 70% of FRP-eligible students² miss out on the benefits of school breakfast.
- 56% of FRP-eligible students who are served by the National School Lunch Program are not served by the School Breakfast Program.
- Schools missed out on \$350 million in additional federal meal reimbursements during 2009-10 due to low school breakfast participation. That is, if school breakfast participation equaled school lunch participation among low-income students, California's public schools would have received an additional \$350 million in federal meal reimbursements during 2009-10.
- The number of low-income students eligible for free and reduced-price meals increased by 4% from 2008-09 to 2009-10. The number of FRP-eligible students participating in NSLP increased by 7%. The number of FRP-eligible students participating in the School Breakfast Program increased by 10%.
- The percent increase in the number of low-income students participating in school meals was greater than the percent increase in the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals. However, 70% of low-income students still miss out on the benefits of school breakfast.



Have questions? Please contact Tia Shimada at tia@cfpa.net or 510.433.1122 ext 109

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¹ 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.

² “FRP-eligible students” are those student reported as being eligible for free or reduced-price meals. School districts report this information through Part II of the Consolidated Application (ConApp).

³ Income guidelines for students eligible to receive free, reduced-price, and paid school meals:

- Free meal category: household income at or below 130% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG)
- Reduced-Price category: household income between 130% and 185% of the FPG
- Paid category: household income above 185% of the FPG

⁴ The methodology for calculating this estimate differed for the 2008-09 analysis and the 2009-10 analysis. The percent change from 2008-09 to 2009-10 is calculated with a revised estimate for 2008-09. The estimate using the 2008-09 methodology was \$297,622,572.