



California Snapshot

Build Back Better by Investing in Child Nutrition

The version of the Build Back Better Act approved by the House Committee on Education and Labor would:

Give more students access to meals that support health and learningⁱ by

- Expanding eligibility criteria for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) to enable more schools to offer free meals for all.
- Allowing states the option to offer free meals for all students via statewide implementation of CEP.

Provide schools with much-needed resources to nourish students by increasing the percentage of meals that receive the highest federal reimbursement through CEP.

- Upwards of 90% of all school meals served in California could be reimbursed at the highest federal rate with a statewide CEP option.
- Outside of a statewide option, an estimated 5,100 California schools would be eligible to receive the highest rate of federal reimbursement for all meals served through CEP.

All children deserve to be well nourished and thrive.

The health, economic, and social effects of the pandemic have placed tremendous hardship on children across our state.

Children need resources now – and in the years ahead – to overcome the harm inflicted by the public health crisis.

We call on federal leaders to build back better by investing in children and child nutrition programs.

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Help nourish children every day of the year by

- Extending Summer EBT nationwide to help families buy the food their children need when school is out of session and children lose access to school meals.
- Allowing Summer EBT to reach all students eligible for free and reduced-price school meals, including all students enrolled at schools utilizing CEP.

Impact of Child Nutrition Investments by CA Congressional District

The following tables demonstrate the effects of the above child nutrition investments for California and each of its congressional districts. (Note that values are rounded.)

SCHOOL MEALS				
CA Congressional District	K-12 Public School Students	Students Who Currently Have Access to Free Meals at School ⁱⁱ	Students Who Could Gain Access to Free Meals with Expanded CEP Eligibility	Students Who Could Gain Access to Free Meals with Statewide CEP Implementation
Statewide ⁱⁱⁱ	6.0 million	3.6 million	627,000	2.3 million
1st	97,300	60,100	17,000	37,300
2nd	90,000	42,100	11,700	47,900
3rd	142,400	85,000	22,000	57,300
4th	147,200	58,400	21,500	88,800
5th	96,100	46,000	18,800	50,100
6th	86,000	66,800	5,720	19,200
7th	122,100	57,800	22,000	64,300
8th	217,400	176,000	16,800	41,400
9th	141,000	92,700	22,900	48,300
10th	135,700	88,200	23,800	47,500
11th	123,400	43,800	11,700	79,600
12th	48,500	31,600	4,620	16,900
13th	86,400	51,600	8,870	34,700
14th	87,000	29,100	11,200	57,900
15th	111,800	28,800	12,500	83,000
16th	143,100	131,800	2,880	11,300
17th	76,500	17,100	5,030	59,400
18th	111,500	21,900	4,900	89,600
19th	107,900	47,600	19,800	60,300
20th	112,800	90,100	7,570	22,700
21st	149,900	130,700	6,780	19,200
22nd	122,100	104,200	6,970	17,900
23rd	174,100	138,600	13,500	35,500



SCHOOL MEALS

CA Congressional District	K-12 Public School Students	Students Who Currently Have Access to Free Meals at School ⁱⁱ	Students Who Could Gain Access to Free Meals with Expanded CEP Eligibility	Students Who Could Gain Access to Free Meals with Statewide CEP Implementation
24th	108,200	63,000	13,800	45,200
25th	134,500	78,300	15,900	56,200
26th	108,100	64,000	8,000	44,000
27th	117,100	61,700	15,500	55,400
28th	145,300	95,700	15,700	49,700
29th	75,500	57,000	5,320	18,500
30th	113,600	84,200	8,110	29,400
31st	75,800	62,500	4,810	13,300
32nd	88,000	64,600	11,500	23,400
33rd	140,800	68,200	6,490	72,600
34th	42,500	32,400	2,910	10,100
35th	95,800	80,100	5,160	15,800
36th	104,800	88,100	13,500	16,700
37th	50,900	35,300	3,260	15,500
38th	103,200	65,900	13,600	37,300
39th	120,100	58,300	14,700	61,800
40th	68,500	49,400	11,800	19,000
41st	119,600	85,800	13,500	33,800
42nd	177,600	84,800	32,200	92,800
43rd	85,700	59,600	3,950	26,100
44th	85,400	72,400	3,970	13,100
45th	117,900	36,100	9,260	81,800
46th	91,300	66,800	5,360	24,500
47th	108,700	71,300	8,640	37,400
48th	88,600	40,300	5,600	48,300
49th	121,400	50,600	13,600	70,800
50th	126,400	66,300	19,000	60,100
51st	117,300	82,100	11,200	35,200
52nd	119,800	61,600	4,480	58,200
53rd	72,200	44,400	7,050	27,900



SUMMER EBT

CA Congressional District	Total Students Who Would Have Access to Summer EBT with No Changes to CEP	Total Students Who Could Have Access to Summer EBT with Expanded CEP Eligibility	Total Students Who Would Have Access to Summer EBT with Statewide CEP Implementation
Statewide ^{iv}	3.6 million	4.3 million	6.0 million
1st	60,100	77,100	97,300
2nd	42,100	53,800	90,000
3rd	85,000	107,000	142,400
4th	58,400	79,900	147,200
5th	46,000	64,800	96,100
6th	66,800	72,600	86,000
7th	57,800	79,800	122,100
8th	176,000	192,800	217,400
9th	92,700	115,600	141,000
10th	88,200	112,000	135,700
11th	43,800	55,500	123,400
12th	31,600	36,200	48,500
13th	51,600	60,500	86,400
14th	29,100	40,300	87,000
15th	28,800	41,300	111,800
16th	131,800	134,700	143,100
17th	17,100	22,100	76,500
18th	21,900	26,800	111,500
19th	47,600	67,400	107,900
20th	90,100	97,600	112,800
21st	130,700	137,400	149,900
22nd	104,200	111,200	122,100
23rd	138,600	152,100	174,100
24th	63,000	76,800	108,200
25th	78,300	94,200	134,500
26th	64,000	72,000	108,100
27th	61,700	77,200	117,100
28th	95,700	111,400	145,300
29th	57,000	62,400	75,500
30th	84,200	92,300	113,600
31st	62,500	67,300	75,800
32nd	64,600	76,100	88,000
33rd	68,200	74,600	140,800
34th	32,400	35,300	42,500
35th	80,100	85,200	95,800



SUMMER EBT

CA Congressional District	Total Students Who Would Have Access to Summer EBT with No Changes to CEP	Total Students Who Could Have Access to Summer EBT with Expanded CEP Eligibility	Total Students Who Would Have Access to Summer EBT with Statewide CEP Implementation
36th	88,100	101,600	104,800
37th	35,300	38,600	50,900
38th	65,900	79,500	103,200
39th	58,300	73,000	120,100
40th	49,400	61,200	68,500
41st	85,800	99,300	119,600
42nd	84,800	117,000	177,600
43rd	59,600	63,600	85,700
44th	72,400	76,300	85,400
45th	36,100	45,400	117,900
46th	66,800	72,100	91,300
47th	71,300	79,900	108,700
48th	40,300	45,900	88,600
49th	50,600	64,100	121,400
50th	66,300	85,200	126,400
51st	82,100	93,300	117,300
52nd	61,600	66,100	119,800
53rd	44,400	51,400	72,200

Technical Notes

Data sources, references, and methodological notes are available in the Technical Appendix for this fact sheet: https://nourishca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/TechnicalAppendix_-_BuildBackBetterByInvestinginChildNutrition_9.27.2021.pdf

ⁱ California recently enacted legislation to make free meals available to all students in the 2022-23 school year. Federal resources are critical to sustaining this historic change.

ⁱⁱ Includes students who are individually eligible for free meals according to federal criteria as well as students enrolled at schools that are approved to operate a federal provision for universal meals (Provision 2, Provision 3, or CEP). This table does not account for time-limited federal waivers that allow (but do not require) schools to offer meals free of charge to all students during the 2021-22 school year in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

ⁱⁱⁱ This statewide total includes students in all local educational agencies. The data for congressional districts excludes students enrolled in state special schools, statewide benefit charter schools, and schools for which a county office of education, the State Board of Education, or the California Education Authority serve as a local education agency.

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