The Summer Experience: SUN Bucks and Sun Meals To-Go





Telling the Story: Summer 2024





Performance Measures – Pre-COVID

USDA's Traditional SFSP "Coverage Rate" 2015-2019



Note: All graphs in this section exclude one outlier data point.





Performance Measures – Pre-COVID

Summer Meal Counts (millions) 2015-2019







Perspectives on Traditional Congregate Model

Two USDA Summer Studies - and a Changed Program

landaana

2018



38% of non-participants indicated that free transportation might encourage their participation.



Others cited concerns about safety and lack of time to finish meals as barriers to participation at traditional congregate sites.





Sponsors and sites report that SFSP's congregate requirement "impedes their ability to serve all the children who need meals ... particularly in rural areas."



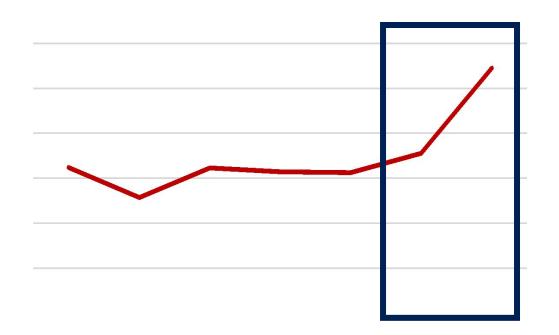
The COVID-era non-congregate waiver allowed sponsors to serve more children; "it would be difficult for programs and families alike if the congregate ... requirement were reinstated."



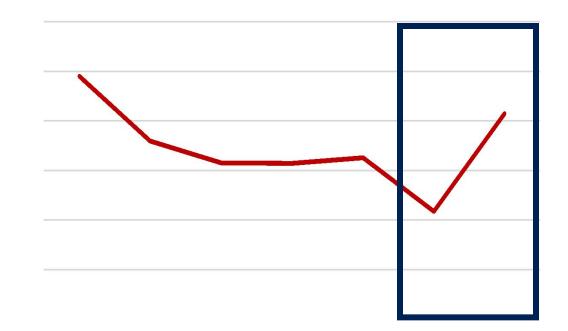


Performance Measures – through 2024

Summer Coverage Rate



Summer Meal Counts







Performance Measures by Population Density

Summer Coverage Rate

2024	Summer Coverage Rate 2024 Compared to 2015-2019 Average		
		10 Most Densely	10 Least Densely
	U.S.	Populated States	Populated States
2015-2019 average	16.6%	24.2%	16.7%
2024	19.0%	24.0%	29.9%
Percent change	14.4%	-1.0%	79.1%





Performance Measures by Population Density

Summer Meal Counts

Summer Meal Counts 2024 Compared to 2015-2019 Average (millions)			
	U.S.	10 Most Densely Populated States	10 Least Densely Populated States
2015-2019 average	96.1	31.7	4.4
2024	101.5	30.7	5.3
Percent change	5.6%	-3.3%	21.7%

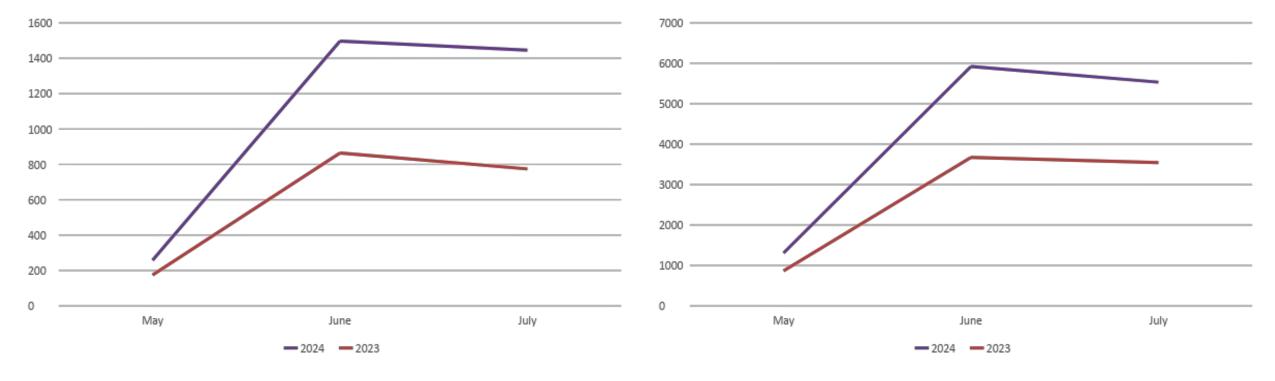




Summer Non-Congregate Meals Service Survey

Summer Non-Congregate Sponsors 2023 and 2024

Summer Non-Congregate Sites 2023 and 2024

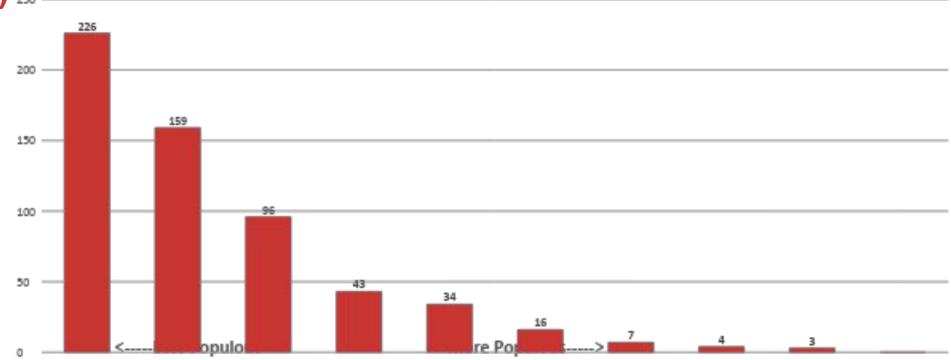






Data from USDA Site Finder

Number of NEW Zip Codes, Population Density (2024)

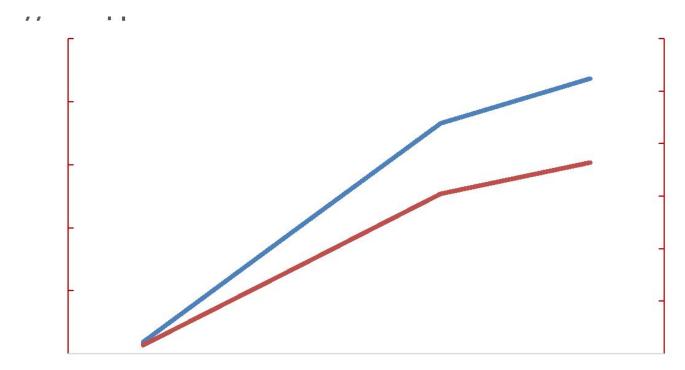






Summer EBT

Cumulative Issuances and Participants - Summer 2024







Summer EBT Updates and Resources





Summer EBT Success

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Summer EBT provided food benefits to 19 million children and counting in Summer 2024



Collaboration and Partnership



45 agencies implemented Summer EBT

- 38 States, including the District of Columbia
- 2 Tribal Nations
- All 5 U.S. Territories



Creativity and Innovation

Check out our resource page!



Passion and Commitment

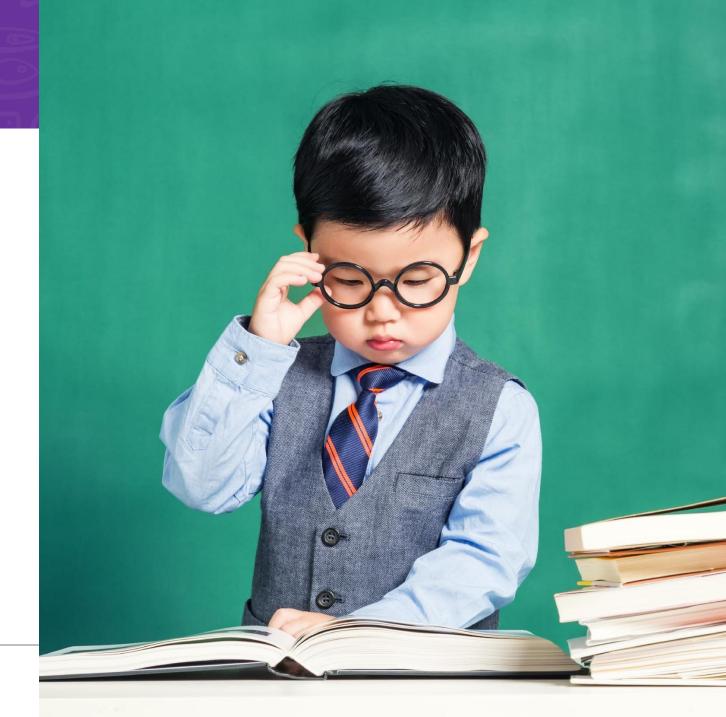






Summer 2025

- 49 iPOMs received46 iPOMs approved
- 7 POMs received
- 1 POM approved
- Get your POMs in early!



Summer EBT Database Requirements Resource

FNS has released the new Summer EBT NSLP/SBP Database Requirements FAQ.

- This guidance details what information must be included in the database and provides answers to frequently asked questions received from agencies.
- Code for America has also developed The Summer EBT Student Database Requirement, a new Summer EBT Playbook resource available to agencies now.







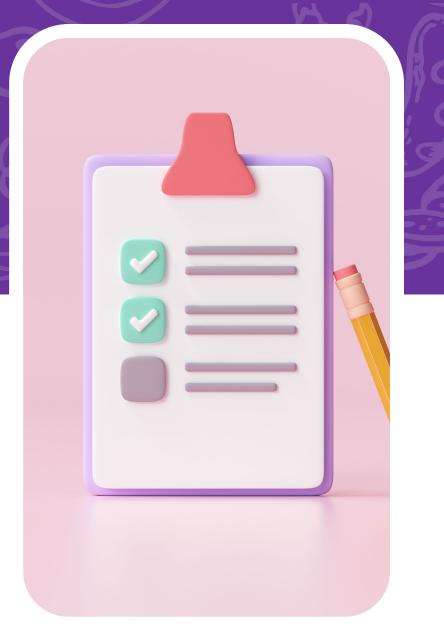
Summer EBT Technology (SET) Grants

Non-competitive grants in equitable allocations of \$1.1 million are available to all Summer EBT coordinating agencies implementing in Summer 2025.

SET grant projects are typically geared towards:

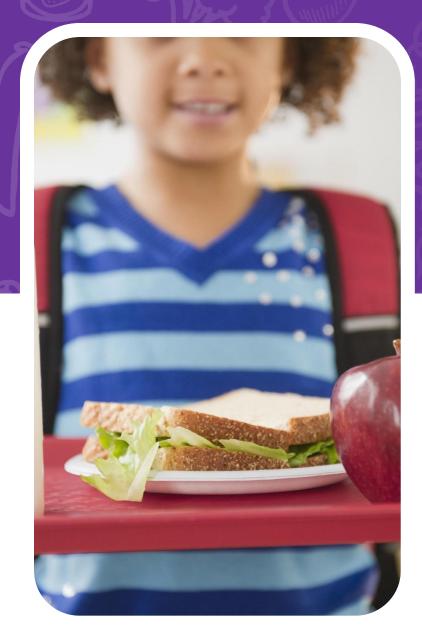
- Database or data file infrastructure,
- Self-service portals and interfaces
- Application solutions.

Final round of applications are due January 15, 2025.









Nutri-Link Application



USDA partnered with Nutri-Link to provide an online household application available for Summer EBT agencies. This application:

- Meets all Summer EBT application requirements.
- Is available at no cost to Summer EBT agencies.
- Includes many customizable features.

We encourage you to consider this option. Visit USDA's Summer EBT/SUN Bucks Online Application page to learn more.



Outreach & Promotional Materials

🚆 USDA's SUN Programs: More Choices, Better Nutrition, and More Summer Smiles for Kids



¡Más sonrisas para los niños este verano con SUN Programs!

Haga que este verano sea inolvidable con SUN Programs: programas de nutrición de verano del USDA para niños.





¡Estire su presupuesto para alimentos con SUN Bucks!

Nuevo este verano

Este nuevo programa ofrece un beneficio de \$120 a las familias con niños elegibles en edad escolar, para que puedan comprar más alimentos saludables y disfrutar de las comidas juntos durante el verano.



USDA Food and Nutrition Service

Need a little help feeding your kids when school is out for summer? Learn how the new [Summer EBT/ SUN Bucks] program can help you!

[Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] is a new grocery benefit to help families buy food for their school-aged children during the summer. Families will get \$120 for each eligible child to buy groceries during the summer [update dollar amount annually]. Children who get [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] can still participate in other summer meal programs. All eligible families can get [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] regardless of immigration status.

Is my child eligible for [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks]?

Your child is eligible, if:

- Your household already participates in [insert customizable list: SNAP, FDPIR, TANF, etc.], OR
- Your child attends a school that offers the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program, and your household income meets the requirements for free or reduced-price school meals.

APPLY ONLINE TODAY!

[INSERT LINK TO APPLY

FOR SUMMER EBT/

SUN BUCKS]

How does [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] work?

In [State name], [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] will be [insert customized text: e.g., loaded onto an EBT card and mailed to your home; added to an existing household SNAP/WIC EBT card, etc.]. You can use [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] benefits to buy food like fruits, vegetables, meat, whole grains, and dairy at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other places that accept [WIC or SNAP] EBT benefits. [Summer EBT/ SUN Bucks] is a convenient way for you to help your children thrive. Receiving [Summer EBT/ SUN Bucks] Does Not Affect Children or Families' Immigration Status

The U.S. citizenship or immigration status of your household members does not affect your child's eligibility for (Summer EBT/ SUN Bucks) benefits.

Recently moved? Or do one of these programs have an old address for you?

Update your address [here/ by doing x] to ensure your [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] benefits are sent to the correct address!



USDA, Food and Nutrition Service • January 2024 • For more information, visit: www.fns.usda.gov/sebt • FNS-#### USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. 1

SUN Meals and SUN Meals To-Go Updates and Resources





SUN Meals Update



52 States and Territories implemented SUN Meals To-Go in Summer 2024

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Released 5 memos, 1 Administration Guide, and 4 webinars to provide guidance and technical assistance to State agencies and sponsors



Served ~76 million SUN Meals and SUN Meals To-Go in July 2024



fns.usda.gov/summer/sunmeals





Prospective Waivers for Summer 2025

Extreme Heat and Air Quality Concerns

- Non-congregate meal service
- Parent or guardian meal pickup
- Meal service time flexibility

Offer Versus Serve (OVS)

Non-SFAs in good standing

2025 - September 30,

Optional waiver request form available







Introduction to the Summer Food Service Program Administration Guide



SFSP Administration Guide

Units:

- Participating in the SFSP
- Applying to the SFSP
- Administering the SFSP
- Operating the Meal Service for the SFSP

fns.usda.gov/sfsp/administration-guide



SCAN ME



AJFA Signage Requirements for Home Delivery

How can sponsors fulfill the requirement to display "And Justice For All" (AJFA) posters at non-congregate meal sites when delivering meals via home delivery? United States Department of Agriculture

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) cvi lrights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of racecolor, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, and American Sign Language) should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA'S TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (600) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online, at www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usda-programdiscrimination-complaint-form updf, from any USDA office, by calling (666) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's mane, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for CNI Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442;

email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Poster/ Revised September 201

Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, o' fax: (833) 256-1665 o' (202) 690-7442; correo electrónico: program.intake@usda.gov.

1400 Independence Avenue, SV

obtener en línea, en

la supuesta acción

al USDA por medio de:

correo postal:

Esta institución ofrece igualdad de oportunidades (rtecomelementario al Formulario AD-475-A/ Revisado Sentembre 2019

U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

onforme a la ley federal y las políticas y regulaciones de derechos civiles del Departamento de Agricultura de los

Estados Unidos (USDA), esta institución tiene prohibido

discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad

discapacidad, venganza o represalia por actividades realizadas

principios de prohibición aplican a todos los programas)

La información del programa puede estar disponible en otros

que requieran medios de comunicación alternativos para

idiomas además del inglés. Las personas con discapacidades

obtener información sobre el programa (por ejemplo, Braille, letra

deben comunicarse con la agencia estatal o local responsable que

administra el programa o con el TARGET Center del USDA al (202)

720-2600 (voz y TTY) o comunicarse con el USDA a través del Servicio Federal de Transmisión de Información al (800) 877-8335

Para presentar una queja por discriminación en el programa, el

www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usda-program-

USDA. La carta debe contener el nombre, la dirección y el

reclamante debe completar un formulario AD-3027, Formulario de queia por discriminación del programa del USDA, que se puede

discrimination-complaint-form.pdf, en cualquier oficina del USDA

llamando al (866) 632-9992 lo escribiendo una carta dirigida al

número de teléfono del reclamante, y una descripción escrita d

de Derechos Civiles (ASCR, por sus siglas en inglés) sobre la naturaleza y la fecha de la presunta violación de los derechos

discriminatoria con suficiente detalle para informar al Subsecretario

civiles. La carta o el formulario AD-3027 completado debe enviarse

agrandada, grabación de audio y lenguaie de señas americano)

en el pasado relacionadas con los derechos civiles (no todos los





AJFA Signage Requirements for Home Delivery

For sponsors experiencing a significant operational challenge with displaying the AJFA signage when offering home delivered meals, they may:

- Include a printed copy of FNS Nondiscrimination Statement (NDS) with each meal delivery.
- Display the NDS as part of parental consent form (digital or hard copy) signed with each meal delivery



NDS in Other Languages



<u>https://tinyurl.</u> com/5647y2uv https://tinyurl. com/y5wwpmk <u>3</u>







Strategies to Promote High Quality Summer Meals

State agencies could encourage sponsors to adopt strategies related to:

- Meal Frequency and Delivery
- Meal Size and Nutritional Content
- Participant Access and Convenience
- Food Safety and Storage
- Menu Communication and Family Support



<u>https://tinyurl.</u> <u>com/4pbm6zn</u> <u>9</u>





More Summer Smiles Promotional Toolkit

- Newsletter Articles
- Web Images
- Social Media Content
- Virtual Meeting Backgrounds
- Videos
- Brand Materials
- Print materials



fns.usda.gov/summer/promotio









Questions



