

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM 1]

Data as of January 23, 2026

Fiscal Year	Number of Sites (thousands)	Peak (July) Participation (thousands)	Meals Served (millions)	Total Federal Expenditures 2] (millions of \$)
1969	1.2	99	2.2	0.3
1970	1.9	227	8.2	1.8
1971	3.2	569	29.0	8.2
1972	6.5	1,080	73.5	21.9
1973	11.2	1,437	65.4	26.6
1974	10.6	1,403	63.6	33.6
1975	12.0	1,785	84.3	50.3
1976	16.0	2,453	104.8	73.4
TQ 3]	22.4	3,455	198.0	88.9
1977	23.7	2,791	170.4	114.4
1978	22.4	2,333	120.3	100.3
1979	23.0	2,126	121.8	108.6
1980	21.6	1,922	108.2	110.1
1981	20.6	1,726	90.3	105.9
1982	14.4	1,397	68.2	87.1
1983	14.9	1,401	71.3	93.4
1984	15.1	1,422	73.8	96.2
1985	16.0	1,462	77.2	111.5
1986	16.1	1,509	77.1	114.7
1987	16.9	1,560	79.9	129.3
1988	17.2	1,577	80.3	133.3
1989	18.5	1,652	86.0	143.8
1990	19.2	1,692	91.2	163.3
1991	20.6	1,845	96.2	181.4
1992	22.8	1,922	107.4	205.1
1993	25.8	2,119	113.4	219.7
1994	28.4	2,167	116.9	229.8
1995	28.2	2,107	120.4	237.0
1996	28.3	2,213	125.4	249.7
1997 4]	28.8	2,176	128.5	243.9
1998	30.3	2,308	134.5	262.2
1999	31.3	2,172	134.7	267.8
2000	31.4	2,103	130.8	267.2
2001	31.8	2,090	130.7	270.5
2002 5]	29.6	1,923	121.9	262.7
2003	29.9	2,070	117.0	256.6
2004	30.7	1,997	117.3	263.1
2005	30.6	1,946	115.9	266.7
2006	31.2	1,912	117.1	275.7
2007	31.2	1,977	120.5	290.4
2008	32.7	2,130	129.7	326.2
2009	34.8	2,260	131.5	347.2
2010	38.5	2,304	133.7	358.8
2011	38.9	2,278	137.3	372.9
2012	39.8	2,348	143.7	398.0
2013	42.7	2,428	150.9	427.2
2014	45.4	2,663	160.5	465.6
2015	47.7	2,570	163.4	487.8
2016	48.2	2,569	154.2	477.5
2017	50.1	2,647	152.2	482.8
2018	49.5	2,688	145.8	473.4
2019	47.5	2,685	142.0	474.8
2020	37.8	5,589	1,305.6	4,307.4
2021	48.5	5,134	3,051.6	10,674.0
2022	36.4	2,732	150.9	601.2
2023	35.9	2,213	125.6	518.4
2024	36.1	2,778	162.0	695.7
2025	97.1	2,789	164.0	730.0

FY 2025 data are preliminary; all data are subject to revision.

1] Fiscal Year 1969 through 1975 data are for the summer component of the Special Food Service Program.

2] Includes cash payments for meals served, sponsor administrative costs, State administrative expenses, and health inspection costs. Also includes entitlement and bonus commodity costs for FY 1978 onward; prior year data are included under the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

3] TQ = Transitional Quarter, the interim between the old definition of fiscal year (July through June) and the current one (October through September).

4] The decline in costs from FY 1996 to FY 1997 reflects legislated reduction of payment rates.

5] The decrease in FY 2002 activity is largely attributable to alternative Seamless Waiver meal service in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, an outreach initiative which enables sponsors to operate summer meal service with reduced paperwork requirements.

6] In SY 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, many schools served meals through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) due to the COVID-19 waivers.

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/program-operator>