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ABSTRACT

The School Breakfast Program supplies federal funds to schools and residential child care institutions that provide breakfasts to children. This status report compares the performance of each state to the performance of other states and of the nation as a whole in school breakfast participation. The first section examines overall outcomes, taking a brief look at school breakfast participation by school and low-income student participation in each state. Recent accomplishments are described in the second section, which measures progress made between 1991 and 1992 in expanding breakfast programs in schools and in serving low-income students. Section 3 focuses on state efforts by considering states' use of four tools for program expansion: state mandates, state funding, federal start-up funds, and direct certification. The fourth section focuses on evaluation, rating the states' performances in the preceding three sections. Ten tables and a list of related publications are included. (MM)

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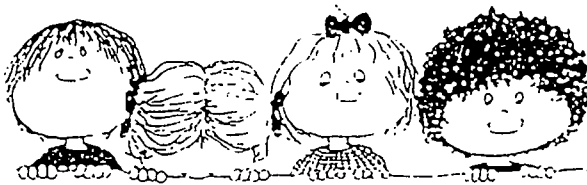
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School Breakfast Score Card

1991-1992
(Second Edition)



Food Research and Action Center

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Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second School Breakfast Scorecard. Produced by the Food Research and Action Center, this booklet contains current data and an explanation to assist you in evaluating efforts in the 50 states and the District of Columbia to ensure the availability of breakfast in school to children who may otherwise go without.

The School Breakfast Program is an entitlement program available to any public or private non-profit (e.g., parochial) school or residential child care institution which chooses to participate.¹ While all students may participate in the program, they can only do so if their schools choose to offer the meal. A little more than one-half of the schools that offer school lunch now offer school breakfast. Daily, 12.5 million low-income children participate in the National School Lunch Program, while 4.1 million participate in the School Breakfast Program.

Despite these disparities, tremendous progress has been made. For the first time in the history of the School Breakfast Program:

- **over one-half — 53.5 percent — of the schools that offer school lunch participate in the School Breakfast Program, the most ever;**
- **one-third — 33.1 percent — of low-income children participating in the school lunch program participate in the School Breakfast Program, the largest ever; and**
- **fiscal year 1992 saw the greatest increase in participation by schools in 13 years.**

These historic levels of participation by schools and students indicate that any barriers to expansion can be overcome. Many state directors of child nutrition programs feel that part of the increase in student participation is a direct result of the current economic recession, yet that very fact might have been a deterrent to increased school participation. Either way, there is still a long way to go to ensure that this nutritious morning meal is made available to all children.

The School Breakfast Program

"...in recognition of the demonstrated relationship between food and good nutrition and the capacity of children to develop and learn...."

— Federal Child Nutrition Act

Millions of kids are hungry in America and hungry kids can't learn. Recognizing the link between nutrition and learning and fearing that millions of children arrive at school hungry and ill-prepared to learn, Congress established the School Breakfast Program — first as a temporary measure through the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, then with permanent authorization in 1975 — to assist schools in providing a nutritious morning meal to children. The School Breakfast Program is now recognized as one of most beneficial of the federal nutrition programs. **It meets a vital need: feeding millions of school children who otherwise may not eat a nutritious breakfast. It is effective: study after study links nutrition and learning and specifically, school breakfast and learning. It reaches needy children: almost 90 percent of the children eating school breakfast are low-income. Yet, it is woefully underutilized.**

Thousands of schools do not participate and millions of kids in need of breakfast still end up going without. Many school administrators, teachers, principals, custodians and others, perceive insurmountable barriers to implementing the breakfast program. Yet all of the "problems" associated with operating a School Breakfast Program — perceived and real — can be solved. FRAC's goal is to change that perception and expand the availability of breakfast in schools and to students across the country.

¹ School Breakfast Program Eligibility and Funding: Funding for the School Breakfast Program is available on an entitlement basis to eligible institutions. Eligible institutions include: public schools; nonprofit, private schools (such as parochial schools); and, residential child care institutions or RCCs (such as group homes). Any child who attends a participating institution may eat school breakfast.

The federal government reimburses schools for all or part of the cost of every meal. The amount children pay for breakfast depends on the financial circumstances of each child's family reflected in applications submitted to schools or other required documentation. Children from families with incomes below 130 percent of the poverty line receive meals for free. Children from families with incomes between 130 and 185 percent of poverty receive meals at a reduced price (see chart page 15). All other children receive the meals at "full" price.

Giving Our Kids a Good Start!

For many children, eating breakfast is not a regular occurrence. Some have parents who, because of their work schedules, have limited or no time to prepare and serve breakfast. Other children have long bus rides and are hungry when they arrive at school. Many come from families that cannot always afford enough food. Because these children do not eat a nutritious breakfast at home, they are hungry when they reach school and either continue to be hungry until lunchtime or eat less nutritious food to quell their grumbling stomachs. Hunger in the morning leaves children cranky and lethargic. It causes sickness and absenteeism. And, most significantly, **hunger deprives children of important opportunities to be creative and learn.**

There is good reason to believe that more children than at any time since the start of the School Breakfast Program come from families too financially strapped to provide them with a nutritionally adequate breakfast every day. Based on current U.S. Census Bureau data, in 1991, 21.8 percent of all U.S. children — 14.3 million — were poor, 900,000 more than the previous year. The overall poverty figure was 35.7 million persons, or 14.2 percent. This is the highest number of children (or people) in poverty since 1965.

Providing a breakfast at school for a child who might otherwise receive no breakfast at all is the most important reason for expanding the availability of the School Breakfast Program. The National Evaluation of School Nutrition Programs (1983) found that the School Breakfast Program increases the likelihood that children will eat breakfast, and that more than 600,000 students who missed breakfast would have eaten it if the program were available in all schools.

About five million children under 12 are hungry in the United States according to estimates based on the Community Childhood Hunger Identification Project (CCHIP) — the most rigorous study of childhood hunger ever conducted in this country (1991). Fewer than half of the low-income households with school-aged children interviewed by CCHIP were receiving school breakfast. CCHIP also found that low-income children had fewer school absences if they got breakfast at school. A 1987 study conducted by physicians and researchers from universities in Boston found that low-income elementary school children participating in the School Breakfast Program showed an improvement in standardized achievement test scores and a tendency toward improved attendance rates and reduced tardiness compared to similar students who did not eat breakfast at school.

The School Breakfast Score Card

This is the first update of FRAC's School Breakfast Scorecard. The first Scorecard, issued earlier this year, provided data on school breakfast through the 1990-91 school year, and measured progress from the prior year. This Scorecard includes the latest available data for the school year 1991-92, and provides comparisons with 1990-91. The Scorecard was developed to demonstrate how the states and the District of Columbia compare to each other and to the nation as a whole in school breakfast participation by schools and students. It also presents how well or how poorly states and the District of Columbia are using available tools to expand school breakfast participation. FRAC plans to update the scorecard annually in order to monitor progress in school breakfast expansion.

Since 1987, FRAC has coordinated the **National School Breakfast Expansion Campaign** to recruit, train and advise breakfast organizers across the country. This successful effort has since become an integral part of the nationwide **Campaign to End Childhood Hunger**. The **Campaign to End Childhood Hunger** is designed to alert the public and policymakers to the magnitude of the childhood hunger problem in this country and to work toward solutions. Launched in 1991 by FRAC in partnership with anti-hunger advocates in every state and more than 100 national organizations, the **Campaign to End Childhood Hunger** has as one of its goals: *to make the School Breakfast Program available to all low-income children across the country...*

Recently, U.S. Senator Robert Dole (R, KS) recounted in a letter to FRAC praising its work in child nutrition programs, a story highlighting the importance of school breakfast: "I heard from a school principal in my own state that he had some children who, before they participated in the program, did not know you eat cereal out of a bowl, with milk. They'd only eaten it dry from the box or with water." This story is, unfortunately, not unique.

Millions of kids are hungry in America — the School Breakfast Program can make a difference. Join efforts across the country to ensure that all our kids have a good start!

Sincerely,

The Food Research and Action Center

SCHOOL BREAKFAST SCORE CARD

This score card is a status report that shows how well or how poorly the states and the District of Columbia are utilizing a resource easily available to them to support, nourish and educate their children. It is not their final evaluation for completion of a task.

Using the indicators provided below, it is possible to compare the performance of states to each other and to the nation as a whole. Groupings are provided in each category of top 10 and bottom 10 states (in descending order).

Finally, in each of the categories, states are awarded stars (★) for performance and effort.

Though some states rate better than others, all are far from the goal of providing a nutritious morning meal to all students who could benefit from one.

In making comparisons, the most recent or best available data has been used.²

The complete tables appear at the back of this report.

HOW TO READ THE SCORE CARD

The score card is divided into four sections:

OVERALL OUTCOME

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

EFFORT

EVALUATION

OVERALL OUTCOME — provides a snapshot of school breakfast participation by schools and low-income students through a comparison with school lunch participation in each state. These are the most important indicators of School Breakfast Program use: they show how states are doing and how far they have to go.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS — measures progress between 1991 and 1992 in expanding breakfast programs in schools and in serving low-income students.

EFFORT — outlines four tools for school breakfast expansion and indicates states' use of these tools.

EVALUATION — rates the states for their performance in the first three sections. According to this scorecard's rating system, states are eligible to receive one star for each of the two categories in the **Overall Outcome** section. Likewise, states can be awarded one star for each of the two categories in the **Recent Accomplishments** section. In the **Effort** section, states are eligible for one star for each of four categories. This year there are only two states that received no stars, compared to six in this category in the previous scorecard — an accomplishment worth noting.

Maximum Possible:

Overall Outcome: ★★
Recent Accomplishments: ★★
Effort: ★★★★★

To achieve a complete picture of School Breakfast Program use in each state, the District of Columbia and the United States, it is important to study all of the sections carefully. The **Overall Outcome** section provides the 1992 baseline for school and low-income student participation. The second and third sections — **Recent Accomplishments** and **Effort** — taken together, indicate the success many states are having in school breakfast expansion efforts and show what tools are currently available to states to improve their performance. The **Evaluation** section, at the end, provides a clearer picture of how the states compare to each other.

² Sources: All information regarding school and student participation, and federal reimbursements to states is from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Program Information Division, and reflects numbers reported to them in October 1991 (for fiscal year 1992) and October 1990 (for fiscal year 1991). The number of schools participating is collected by USDA once per year, and reflects the number of schools participating in the fall — through the end of October. Student participation data is collected monthly, based on daily meal counts and is revised quarterly.

Information regarding mandates, direct certification, state funds and federal start-up grants is based on responses to a survey conducted in Summer 1992, by the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) of all state agencies that administer the School Breakfast Program.

OVERALL OUTCOME

SELECTED STATE PROFILES

Each state has its own story to tell. For example, rural states and states with high poverty rates were early targets of School Breakfast Program expansion. These states, which are primarily in the South, tend to have school participation well above the national average of 53.5 percent. Low-income student participation in these states also tends to be above the national average of 33.1 percent. Because these states have less of a need for program expansion than states with lower participation, recent changes in school participation have been less dramatic than in states with active expansion efforts. But, despite their relatively high showing in "Overall Outcome," some of these states still are working to increase school and student participation in school breakfast, with outstanding results.

1. School Participation — 1992

The most important indicator of success in the School Breakfast Program is in the number of schools offering the program. Only if a school participates in breakfast can a student — any student — receive the meal. The National School Lunch Program is widely available (it is offered in 95 percent of all public schools) and has the same eligibility requirements as the School Breakfast Program. Schools participating in

school lunch already have the facilities, staff and other infrastructure in place to operate a breakfast program and are, therefore, the most likely to enter the program. The first measure of overall outcome, then, compares the number of schools participating in the School Breakfast Program with the number of schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. This percentage is at an all-time high.

In the nation as a whole, a little more than half (53.5 percent) of the schools offering school lunch also offer breakfast.

Top 10 States:

West Virginia
 District of Columbia
 Texas
 Delaware
 Hawaii
 North Carolina
 Florida
 Louisiana
 Arkansas
 Tennessee

Bottom 10 States:

Connecticut
 Indiana
 New Jersey
 Utah
 North Dakota
 Wyoming
 Kansas
 Nebraska
 Michigan
 Wisconsin

School Participation Rates '92

AL	65.7%	KY	75.1%	ND	22.7%
AK	37.8%	LA	85.9%	OH	35.1%
AZ	72.9%	ME	44.3%	OK	68.6%
AR	85.8%	MD	71.3%	OR	49.4%
CA	47.0%	MA	49.4%	PA	34.1%
CO	34.7%	MI	19.5%	RI	32.0%
CT	27.7%	MN	38.1%	SC	69.0%
DE	90.7%	MS	76.5%	SD	39.0%
DC	95.5%	MO	51.1%	TN	82.2%
FL	86.3%	MT	30.7%	TX	95.3%
GA	64.5%	NE	20.3%	UT	24.1%
HI	89.7%	NV	69.7%	VT	39.9%
ID	56.7%	NH	37.2%	VA	73.8%
IL	34.0%	NJ	26.0%	WA	70.8%
IN	27.0%	NM	64.7%	WV	96.4%
IA	46.3%	NY	62.9%	WI	16.6%
KS	21.9%	NC	86.9%	WY	22.5%
				US	53.5%

2. Low-Income Student Participation — 1992

Low-income students are more likely than other students to arrive at school without an adequate breakfast and will likely derive the greatest benefit from the School Breakfast Program. These students, from households with incomes below 185 percent of the poverty line, are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Families may apply for free or reduced-price meals at any time during the year. And, in schools offering both lunch and breakfast, students

receiving free and reduced-price lunches are automatically eligible for free and reduced-price breakfasts. To illustrate how states are doing in reaching needy students through school breakfast, a comparison is made of the number of children receiving free and reduced-price lunch with those receiving free and reduced-price breakfast. While there is considerable room for growth, this percentage is at an all-time high.

Nationwide, the number of low-income students receiving school breakfast is one-third (33.1 percent) of the number receiving school lunch.

Top 10 States:

West Virginia
Arkansas
Mississippi
Louisiana
Tennessee
Kentucky
North Carolina
Texas
District of Columbia
Oklahoma

Bottom 10 States:

New Jersey
Idaho
Wyoming
New Hampshire
Nebraska
North Dakota
Kansas
Michigan
Wisconsin
Utah

Low-Income Student Participation Rates '92

AL	34.1%	KY	45.9%	ND	14.1%
AK	20.5%	LA	46.3%	OH	28.0%
AZ	38.8%	ME	23.1%	OK	40.9%
AR	50.2%	MD	31.3%	OR	26.1%
CA	33.3%	MA	35.3%	PA	19.9%
CO	20.5%	MI	13.1%	RI	17.3%
CT	24.4%	MN	21.5%	SC	40.1%
DE	37.0%	MS	46.4%	SD	24.6%
DC	41.6%	MO	30.4%	TN	45.9%
FL	38.1%	MT	18.1%	TX	43.5%
GA	38.2%	NE	15.5%	UT	9.7%
HI	35.8%	NV	37.4%	VT	18.7%
ID	16.7%	NH	15.6%	VA	40.4%
IL	21.4%	NJ	17.0%	WA	32.8%
IN	18.0%	NM	32.2%	WV	56.8%
IA	19.5%	NY	29.4%	WI	12.1%
KS	13.6%	NC	44.8%	WY	16.5%
				US	33.1%

Example: Arkansas is among the top 10 states in the rate of participation by both schools and students — 85.8 percent of the schools that offered lunch also offered breakfast in 1992 and 50.2 percent of the low-income students who participated in lunch participated in breakfast. This makes Arkansas only the second state in the country (other than West Virginia) to achieve over 50 percent participation in this area. School participation growth in school breakfast between 1991 and 1992 was substantial, at 23.0 percent, and Arkansas was among the top 10 states in growth in low-income student participation, at 33.8 percent. This is due, in part, to a mandate passed in 1991 and aggressive efforts to expand school breakfast at the state level. The state agency applied for and received federal funds in fiscal years 1990, 1991 and 1992 to start new breakfast programs. Direct certification is also being implemented.

Evaluation Arkansas:

Overall Outcome ★★
Recent Accomplishments ★★
Effort ★★★

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

3. Change in School Participation: 1991-1992

Example: Texas is among the top 10 states in the rate of participation in school breakfast as compared to school lunch among schools (95.3 percent) and low-income students (43.5 percent). This strong showing is due, in large part, to a long-standing state mandate for certain schools to participate in breakfast. As the result, there is little evidence of success in recent efforts to expand the program: the increase in participation by schools and low-income students between 1990 and 1991 was only 1.3 percent and 6.9 percent respectively. The state, though, is working to increase its showing. The state agency applied for federal start-up funds in 1991 and 1992, receiving them in 1991, and direct certification is being implemented.

Evaluation Texas:

Overall Outcome ★★
 Recent Accomplish. no stars
 Effort ★★★

Across the country, advocates, parents, state agencies and others are aggressively pushing for School Breakfast Program expansion. Effective tools for expansion (which are discussed in more detail in the next section) include: community organizing, education and outreach; acquisition of state financial support and federal start-up funds; and, passage of state

laws mandating participation in school breakfast by certain or all schools. In most cases, organizers measure success school-by-school. To provide an indication of progress in expanding school breakfast to schools, the number of schools serving breakfast in 1991 is compared to those serving breakfast in 1992. The reported increase is the greatest in the program since 1979.

The number of schools nationwide participating in the School Breakfast Program increased by 8.9 percent between 1991 and 1992.

Top 10 States:

- Montana
- Kansas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Minnesota
- Louisiana
- Oregon
- Idaho
- Rhode Island
- New Hampshire

Bottom 10 States:

- North Carolina
- Wisconsin
- Hawaii
- Washington
- Colorado
- Tennessee
- Indiana
- District of Columbia
- West Virginia
- Alaska

Change in School Participation Rates '91-'92

AL	4.8%	KY	4.7%	ND	24.2%
AK	-29.8%	LA	39.3%	OH	1.7%
AZ	9.6%	ME	3.5%	OK	5.5%
AR	23.0%	MD	9.0%	OR	36.2%
CA	9.8%	MA	2.9%	PA	14.8%
CO	0.0%	MI	12.4%	RI	31.5%
CT	12.7%	MN	41.8%	SC	8.7%
DE	6.4%	MS	2.9%	SD	17.9%
DC	-1.7%	MO	11.3%	TN	-1.0%
FL	21.6%	MT	49.6%	TX	1.3%
GA	8.8%	NE	6.5%	UT	49.6%
HI	0.9%	NV	23.7%	VT	45.5%
ID	33.5%	NH	30.4%	VA	14.0%
IL	5.1%	NJ	9.0%	WA	0.3%
IN	-1.7%	NM	10.5%	WV	-2.8%
IA	14.5%	NY	7.0%	WI	1.1%
KS	49.6%	NC	1.1%	WY	10.1%
				US	8.9%

4. Change in Low-Income Student Participation: 1991-1992

The primary goal of school breakfast organizers and state agencies is to make available to all students a nutritious morning meal at school to ensure their readiness to learn. Once a breakfast program is in place, outreach to students — particularly those who are most needy — is necessary. Among the strategies advocates and schools employ are: direct marketing to students through posters, leaflets and announcements; permitting children from families receiving certain other types of public assistance to receive free meals without filing an application; and

lowering program stigma by promoting the program to all children and by ensuring that children receiving free and reduced-price meals are not overtly identified. According to assessments by state directors of child nutrition programs, the recent recession has been a major factor in the noticeable increase in student participation. Success in this category is measured student-by-student. Recent progress is evident by comparing the number of low-income students in school breakfast in 1991 to those participating in 1992.

Participation nationwide by low-income children in the School Breakfast Program increased by 12.7 percent between 1991 and 1992.

Top 10 States:

Utah
Wyoming
New Hampshire
Kansas
Vermont
Oregon
Idaho
Louisiana
Arkansas
Minnesota

Bottom 10 States:

Tennessee
South Dakota
Ohio
Alaska
Nebraska
New York
Massachusetts
Wisconsin
Hawaii
West Virginia

Change in Low-Income Student Participation Rates '91-'92

AL	8.2%	KY	10.6%	ND	14.2%
AK	6.0%	LA	36.0%	OH	6.2%
AZ	16.8%	ME	17.0%	OK	11.3%
AR	33.8%	MD	10.3%	OR	38.9%
CA	9.4%	MA	4.3%	PA	25.8%
CO	12.4%	MI	17.6%	RI	8.2%
CT	13.5%	MN	33.2%	SC	18.2%
DE	10.3%	MS	7.5%	SD	6.3%
DC	6.7%	MO	15.9%	TN	6.4%
FL	27.0%	MT	19.2%	TX	6.9%
GA	16.8%	NE	5.3%	UT	59.2%
HI	2.3%	NV	26.5%	VT	39.6%
ID	37.0%	NH	50.8%	VA	15.0%
IL	13.3%	NJ	7.2%	WA	25.2%
IN	8.5%	NM	10.5%	WV	-12.4%
IA	22.9%	NY	4.3%	WI	3.6%
KS	44.1%	NC	8.6%	WY	54.8%
				US	12.7%

On the other hand, states with school participation rates below the national average may be very actively promoting new breakfast programs and show signs of recent and future expansion.

Example: Minnesota scored below the national average for both schools that offer lunch also offering breakfast and for low-income students participating in lunch who also participate in breakfast. The state's participation rates were 38.1 percent and 21.5 percent, respectively. In both cases, however, recent progress is evident. Between 1991 and 1992, participation by schools in the breakfast program grew by 41.8 percent and low-income student participation by 33.2 percent, placing Minnesota in the top 10 states for change in both schools and students. Growth was achieved, in part, through: the implementation of a state law mandating that schools with large numbers of needy children participate in the School Breakfast Program; successfully securing federal start-up funds in fiscal years 1990, 1991, 1992, and 1993; and by implementing direct certification.

Evaluation Minnesota:

Overall Outcome no stars
Recent Accomplishments ★★
Effort ★★★

EFFORT

5. State Mandates

Example: Utah ranks in the bottom 10 states in school and student participation in school breakfast as compared to school lunch (24.1 percent and 9.7 percent, respectively). But the state's efforts to expand the program are showing outstanding results. Through a combination of: applying for federal funding to start new programs in 1992 and 1993 (receiving a grant in 1992) and implementing direct certification. Utah has seen its school participation in breakfast increase by 49.6 percent between 1991 to 1992. Low-income student participation increased by 59.2 percent during the same period, placing Utah number one among the states in change in low-income student participation.

Evaluation Utah:

Overall Outcome	no stars
Recent Accomplish.	★★
Effort	★★

In addition to local efforts to expand school breakfast on a school-by-school or school district-by-school district basis, advocates in many states have pursued state-wide mandates as a more comprehensive way to secure breakfast at school for low-income children.

To guarantee that the School Breakfast Program is available in schools with the greatest concentrations of needy students, 18 states have laws mandating that certain schools participate in the School Breakfast Program. Requirements are generally linked to a school or school district's percentage of low-income students in relation to school lunch participants. All but one (Michigan)

are active. (Michigan's state mandate was linked to federal reimbursement levels, which were cut in 1981, thereby making the mandate inactive. Although reimbursement levels have since been raised, the mandate has not been reinstated to date.) Three new states have enacted mandates this year: Kansas, Missouri and South Carolina.

States with School Breakfast Mandates:

Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and West Virginia.

6. State Funds

To assist schools in providing breakfast to students, 10 states have provided money to supplement the federal per-meal reimbursement or provide grants to schools to support school breakfast programs. This signals a recognition by these states of the relationship between nutrition and learning, and a will-

ingness to commit limited state dollars during a period of fiscal austerity.

States Providing Funds for Breakfast: California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

7. Federal Start-Up Funds

To assist states in expanding school breakfast programs, Congress established a fund providing competitive grants to states for one-time expenses associated with starting school breakfast programs. This five year program provided \$3 million in fiscal year 1990 and is providing \$5 million per year through fiscal year 1994. Schools receiving start-up funds must agree to operate the program for at least three years. The tables that appear on page 14 indicate which states applied for federal funds and which states received funds. For the purposes of measuring effort by states, the important indicator is application for start-up funds. Thirty-nine states have applied for federal start-up funds. There has been a resounding

consensus from state departments of education that the availability of these funds has played an important role in the expansion of school breakfast.

States that Have Applied for Federal Start-Up Funds:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

8. States With Direct Certification

To assist very low-income students who attend schools offering breakfast in receiving free breakfast, schools may allow these students to receive free meals **without** filing an application. To qualify for "direct certification," students must be from households receiving food stamps or Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Records from these programs must then be cross-checked with school enrollment records (with precautions taken to ensure students' privacy) and families notified that their children may receive free meals at school. States with centralized record-keeping and compatible systems between schools and public assistance agencies can directly certify students easily. States with different jurisdictions for the various programs — e.g., public assistance programs administered by county agencies and schools administered by districts

with some overlapping jurisdictions and geography — will find the process far more difficult. Therefore, any form of direct certification utilized by a state is viewed as an indicator of effort. Schools in 44 states engage in some form of direct certification.

States Permitting Direct Certification:

Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

Example: Montana was identified in the previous scorecard as a state which was performing poorly and appeared to be putting little effort into improving its performance. Steps have been taken in the state to expand participation, and the results are evident. Montana still ranks below the national average in school and student participation in school breakfast as compared to school lunch — 30.7 percent and 18.1 percent respectively. But this year it is above the national average for change in participation rates for schools (where it is number one among the states) and students — 49.6 percent and 19.2 percent respectively. Two important indicators of effort have been: the implementation of direct certification, and the state applying for (and receiving) federal funds to assist schools wishing to start breakfast programs. Continued school breakfast expansion in Montana is anticipated.

Evaluation Montana:

Overall Outcome	no stars
Recent Accomplish.	★★
Effort	★★

Supporting Data

Also provided on page 14 is the amount of money paid in fiscal year 1991 (final FY 1992 data will not be submitted to USDA until the end of October 1992) to states as a reimbursement from the federal government for meals provided through the School Breakfast Program.

I ate
Breakfast



drawing by:

Nicole Suggins, Age 7

I did not

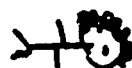


Table Scraps/CPR

EVALUATION

Overall Outcome

Of course, there are states performing poorly overall that could benefit from added effort to expand the availability of school breakfast. Placing a priority on expansion of the School Breakfast Program provides states with an opportunity to bring federal funds into their communities to help meet the needs of many of their children.

Example: Wisconsin ranks among the bottom 10 states in participation by schools and students in the School Breakfast Program as compared to the School Lunch Program. Wisconsin is also among the bottom 10 states in changes in both school and student participation. There is a hopeful note on the horizon: the state has applied for start-up grants in each year they were offered, and received grants for fiscal years 1992 and 1993 to expand school breakfast in the state. Wisconsin also implements direct certification, another indicator of effort. Wisconsin has far to go to catch up with other states in expanding school breakfast, given its overall poor performance. Progress is anticipated as a result of the start-up grants, and will hopefully be reflected in the next scorecard release in 1993.

Evaluation Wisconsin:

Overall Outcome	no stars
Recent Accomplish.	no stars
Effort	★★

States are awarded one star for scoring above the national average in each of the two categories in this section — *School Participation: 1992* and *Low-Income Student Participation: 1992*.

- ★★ Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.
- ★ California, Idaho, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York and Washington.
- no stars Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Recent Accomplishments

States are awarded one star for scoring above the national average in each of the categories in this section — *Change in School Participation: 1991–1992* and *Change in Low-Income Student Participation: 1991–1992*.

- ★★ Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and Wyoming.
- ★ California, Georgia, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota and Washington.
- no stars Alaska, Alabama, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Effort

States are awarded one star for each of the four categories in which they are taking the initiative to expand school breakfast participation.

- ★★★★ Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts and New York.
- ★★★ Arkansas, California, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas and Washington.
- ★★ Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin.
- ★ Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, West Virginia and Wyoming.
- no stars New Hampshire and New Mexico.

EVALUATION

Overall
Outcomes

Recent
Accomplishments

Effort

State	Schools	Students	Schools Change	Students Change	Mandate	State \$	Start-up \$	Direct Cert.
AL	★	★					★	
AK								★
AZ	★	★	★	★			★	★
AR	★	★	★	★	★		★	★
CA		★	★			★	★	★
CO							★	★
CT			★	★	★	★	★	★
DE	★	★						★
DC	★	★						★
FL	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
GA	★	★		★			★	★
HI	★	★						★
ID	★		★	★				★
IL				★		★	★	★
IN							★	★
IA			★	★		★	★	★
KY	★	★	★	★	★		★	★
LA	★	★	★	★	★		★	★
ME				★			★	★
MD	★		★		★	★		★
MA		★			★	★	★	★
MI			★	★	★		★	★
MN			★	★	★		★	★
MS	★	★					★	
MO			★	★	★		★	★
MT			★	★			★	★
NE							★	
NV	★	★	★	★			★	★
NH			★	★				
NJ			★				★	★
NM	★		★					
NY	★				★	★	★	★
NC	★	★					★	★
ND			★	★			★	★
OH					★		★	★
OK	★	★						★
OR			★	★	★		★	★
PA			★	★		★	★	★
RI			★			★		★
SC	★	★		★	★		★	★
SD			★				★	★
TN	★	★			★			★
TX	★	★			★		★	★
UT			★	★			★	★
VT			★	★			★	★
VA	★	★	★	★			★	★
WA	★			★	★		★	★
WV	★	★			★			
WI							★	★
WY			★	★			★	
US	53.5%	33.1%	8.9%	12.7%	18	10	39	44

OVERALL OUTCOME

1. School Participation: 1992

2. Low Income Student Participation: 1992

A. B. C. A. B. C.

1. School Participation: 1992

A. # Schls Serving Lch '92 (# Schools Serving Lunch FY92)

The actual number of schools that participated in the National School Lunch Program in fiscal year 1992 (FY92). FY92 included the period between October 1991 and September 1992.

B. # Schls Serving Bfast '92 (# Schools Serving Breakfast FY92)

The actual number of schools that participated in the School Breakfast Program in FY92.

C. % Schls Serving Both '92 (% Schools Serving Both FY92)

The percentage of schools participating in school lunch that also participated in school breakfast in FY92.

2. Low Income Student Participation: 1992

A. # F&RP Students in Lch '92 (# Free & Reduced-Price Students in Lunch FY92)

The average daily participation of students receiving free and reduced-price school lunches in FY92. (The same application covers both lunch and breakfast, where both meals are available).

B. # F&RP Students in Bfast '92 (# Free & Reduced-Price Students in Breakfast FY92)

The average daily participation of students receiving free and reduced-price school breakfasts in FY92.

C. % F&RP Students in Both '92 (% Free & Reduced-Price Students Breakfast and Lunch FY92)

The percentage of students who, on a daily basis, received free or reduced-price school lunch who also received free or reduced-price school breakfast.

State	# Schls Serving Lch '92	# Schls Serving Bfast '92	% Schls Serving Both '92	# F&RP Students in Lch '92	# F&RP Students in Bfast '92	% of F&RP Students in Both '92
AL	1,316	865	65.7%	306,045	104,487	34.1%
AK	381	144	37.8%	22,135	4,529	20.5%
AZ	1,116	814	72.9%	216,811	84,097	38.8%
AR	1,161	996	85.8%	164,065	82,356	50.2%
CA	8,528	4,008	47.0%	1,596,718	531,011	33.3%
CO	1,356	471	34.7%	128,832	26,412	20.5%
CT	1,023	283	27.7%	92,978	22,696	24.4%
DE	183	166	90.7%	23,221	8,587	37.0%
DC	178	170	95.5%	38,554	16,036	41.6%
FL	2,650	2,286	86.3%	699,616	266,262	38.1%
GA	1,810	1,167	64.5%	436,217	166,543	38.2%
HI	263	236	89.7%	43,097	15,422	35.8%
ID	527	299	56.7%	57,213	9,546	16.7%
IL	4,053	1,377	34.0%	543,038	116,463	21.4%
IN	2,136	577	27.0%	198,815	35,733	18.0%
IA	1,739	806	46.3%	113,061	22,024	19.5%
KS	1,670	365	21.9%	114,421	15,556	13.6%
KY	1,512	1,136	75.1%	257,150	118,033	45.9%
LA	1,686	1,449	85.9%	424,225	196,356	46.3%
ME	740	328	44.3%	48,880	11,298	23.1%
MD	1,343	957	71.3%	161,859	50,723	31.3%
MA	2,062	1,019	49.4%	176,487	62,275	35.3%
MI	3,681	717	19.5%	343,515	44,901	13.1%
MN	1,985	757	38.1%	160,593	34,506	21.5%
MS	893	683	76.5%	297,850	138,246	46.4%
MO	2,427	1,239	51.1%	229,675	69,879	30.4%
MT	668	205	30.7%	37,669	6,816	18.1%
NE	965	196	20.3%	68,601	10,661	15.5%
NV	330	230	69.7%	35,537	13,287	37.4%
NH	473	176	37.2%	25,591	3,982	15.6%
NJ	2,518	654	26.0%	253,802	43,172	17.0%
NM	748	484	64.7%	128,339	41,356	32.2%
NY	5,541	3,486	62.9%	925,196	271,846	29.4%
NC	1,964	1,707	86.9%	364,193	163,203	44.8%
ND	497	113	22.7%	29,424	4,148	14.1%
OH	4,024	1,414	35.1%	415,247	116,266	28.0%
OK	1,840	1,263	68.6%	195,000	79,700	40.9%
OR	1,264	625	49.4%	111,227	29,023	26.1%
PA	3,693	1,258	34.1%	400,210	79,548	19.9%
RI	378	121	32.0%	35,362	6,105	17.3%
SC	1,067	736	69.0%	249,481	100,016	40.1%
SD	574	224	39.0%	44,282	10,888	24.6%
TN	1,621	1,333	82.2%	268,822	123,515	45.9%
TX	5,995	5,712	95.3%	1,283,719	557,910	43.5%
UT	725	175	24.1%	87,270	8,466	9.7%
VT	361	144	39.9%	18,414	3,437	18.7%
VA	1,854	1,368	73.8%	232,599	93,860	40.4%
WA	1,787	1,265	70.8%	185,513	60,898	32.8%
WV	989	953	96.4%	100,220	56,967	56.8%
WI	2,305	383	16.6%	172,386	20,919	12.1%
WY	386	87	22.5%	20,735	3,428	16.5%
US	88,986	47,627	53.5%	12,583,910	4,163,393	33.1%

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

3. Change in School Participation: 1991-1992

4. Change in Low Income Student Participation: 1991-1992

A. B. C. A. B. C.

State	# Schls Serving Bfast '91	# Schls Serving Bfast '92	% Change Schls '91-'92	# F&RP Students in Bfast '91	# F&RP Students in Bfast '92	% Change Students '91-'92
AL	825	865	4.8%	96,532	104,487	8.2%
AK	205	144	-29.8%	4,273	4,529	6.0%
AZ	743	814	9.6%	71,975	84,097	16.8%
AR	810	996	23.0%	61,551	82,356	33.8%
CA	3,649	4,008	9.8%	485,287	531,011	9.4%
CO	471	471	0.0%	23,497	26,412	12.4%
CT	251	283	12.7%	19,994	22,695	13.5%
DE	156	166	6.4%	7,784	8,587	10.3%
DC	173	170	-1.7%	15,023	16,036	6.7%
FL	1,880	2,286	21.6%	209,616	266,262	27.0%
GA	1,073	1,167	8.8%	142,536	166,543	16.8%
HI	234	236	0.9%	15,068	15,422	2.3%
ID	224	299	33.5%	6,969	9,546	37.0%
IL	1,310	1,377	5.1%	102,765	116,463	13.3%
IN	587	577	-1.7%	32,936	35,733	8.5%
IA	704	806	14.5%	17,917	22,024	22.9%
KS	244	365	49.6%	10,792	15,556	44.1%
KY	1,085	1,136	4.7%	106,753	118,033	10.6%
LA	1,040	1,449	39.3%	144,365	196,356	36.0%
ME	317	328	3.5%	9,658	11,298	17.0%
MD	878	957	9.0%	45,967	50,723	10.3%
MA	990	1,019	2.9%	59,728	62,275	4.3%
MI	638	717	12.4%	38,171	44,901	17.6%
MN	534	757	41.8%	25,896	34,506	33.2%
MS	664	683	2.9%	128,562	138,246	7.5%
MO	1,113	1,239	11.3%	60,300	69,879	15.9%
MT	137	205	49.6%	5,716	6,816	19.2%
NE	184	196	6.5%	10,122	10,661	5.3%
NV	186	230	23.7%	10,507	13,287	26.5%
NH	135	176	30.4%	2,640	3,982	50.8%
NJ	600	654	9.0%	40,278	43,172	7.2%
NM	438	484	10.5%	37,437	41,356	10.5%
NY	3,257	3,486	7.0%	260,582	271,846	4.3%
NC	1,689	1,707	1.1%	150,332	163,203	8.6%
ND	91	113	24.2%	3,631	4,148	14.2%
OH	1,391	1,414	1.7%	109,430	116,266	6.2%
OK	1,197	1,263	5.5%	71,611	79,700	11.3%
OR	459	625	36.2%	20,902	29,023	38.9%
PA	1,096	1,258	14.8%	63,250	79,548	25.8%
RI	92	121	31.5%	5,641	6,105	8.2%
SC	677	736	8.7%	84,623	100,016	18.2%
SD	190	224	17.9%	10,238	10,888	6.3%
TN	1,346	1,333	-1.0%	116,088	123,515	6.4%
TX	5,639	5,712	1.3%	521,989	557,910	6.9%
UT	117	175	49.6%	5,319	8,466	59.2%
VT	99	144	45.5%	2,462	3,437	39.6%
VA	1,200	1,368	14.0%	81,641	93,860	15.0%
WA	1,261	1,265	0.3%	48,654	60,898	25.2%
WV	980	953	-2.8%	64,994	56,967	-12.4%
WI	379	383	1.1%	20,198	20,918	3.6%
WY	79	87	10.1%	2,215	3,428	54.8%
US	43,717	47,627	8.9%	3,694,415	4,163,393	12.7%

3. Change in School Participation: 1991-1992

A. # Schls Serving Bfast '91 (# Schools Serving Breakfast FY91)

The number of schools participating in the School Breakfast Program in FY91.

B. # Schls Serving Bfast '92 (# Schools Serving Breakfast FY92)

The number of schools participating in the School Breakfast Program in FY92.

C. % Change Schls '91-'92 (% Change in Breakfast FY91-FY92)

Percentage change in the number of schools participating in the School Breakfast Program between FY91 and FY92.

4. Change in Low Income Student Participation: 1991-1992

A. # F&RP Students in Bfast '91 (# Free & Reduced-Price Students in Breakfast FY91)

The average daily participation of students receiving free and reduced-price school breakfast in FY91.

B. # F&RP Students Bfast '92 (# Free & Reduced-Price Students in Breakfast FY92)

The average daily participation of students receiving free and reduced-price school breakfast in FY92.

C. % Change Students '91-'92 (% Change in Students FY91-FY92)

Percentage change in the number of students receiving free and reduced-price school breakfasts on a daily basis between FY91 and FY92.

THE CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Income Guidelines for Child Nutrition Meals 1992-1993

Size of Household	Federal Poverty Guidelines 100% Poverty			Free Meals 130% of Poverty			Reduced-Price Meals 185% of Poverty		
	Year	Month	Week	Year	Month	Week	Year	Month	Week
1	\$ 6,810	\$ 568	\$ 131	\$ 8,853	\$ 738	\$ 171	\$12,599	\$1,050	\$ 234
2	\$ 9,190	\$ 766	\$ 177	\$11,947	\$ 996	\$ 230	\$17,002	\$1,417	\$ 327
3	\$11,570	\$ 965	\$ 223	\$15,041	\$1,254	\$ 290	\$21,405	\$1,784	\$ 412
4	\$13,950	\$1,163	\$ 269	\$18,135	\$1,512	\$ 349	\$25,808	\$2,151	\$ 497
5	\$16,330	\$1,361	\$ 315	\$21,229	\$1,770	\$ 409	\$30,211	\$2,518	\$ 581
6	\$18,710	\$1,560	\$ 360	\$24,323	\$2,027	\$ 468	\$34,614	\$2,885	\$ 666
7	\$21,090	\$1,758	\$ 406	\$27,417	\$2,285	\$ 528	\$39,017	\$3,252	\$ 751
8	\$23,470	\$1,956	\$ 452	\$30,511	\$2,543	\$ 587	\$43,420	\$3,619	\$ 835
Ea. add. +	\$ 2,380	\$ 199	\$ 46	\$ 3,094	\$ 258	\$ 60	\$ 4,403	\$ 367	\$ 85

Source: *Federal Register*, Vol. 57, No. 45, 3/6/92, p. 8111.

This is relevant for the continental U.S. only and does not include Alaska and Hawaii.

FEDERAL PER-MEAL REIMBURSEMENT RATES

July 1, 1992-June 30, 1993

	Non-severe Need	Severe Need*	Amount Child Pays**
Free	\$0.9450	\$1.1225	\$0
Reduced-Price	\$0.6450	\$0.8225	\$0.30 (max.)
Paid	\$0.1875	\$0.1875	\$0.49 (average)

* A school with more than 40 percent participation in free or reduced-price lunch is classified as a "severe need" school and can therefore qualify for extra federal reimbursements.

** Child Nutrition Division, USDA FNS. (Based on survey showing average cost of \$.48 in elementary and \$.50 in higher grades.)

Source: *Federal Register*, Vol. 57, No. 124, 6/26/92, pp. 28652.

**OLD TRUTH -
FRESH TRAGEDY**

FOR THE WANT
OF A BREAKFAST,
A CHILD'S ATTENTION
WAS LOST...

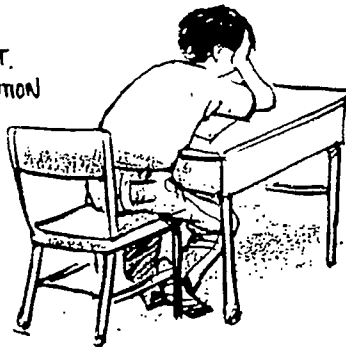
FOR THE WANT OF
THAT ATTENTION, AN
EDUCATION WAS LOST...

FOR THE WANT OF
AN EDUCATION, A
CAREER WAS LOST...

FOR THE WANT
OF THAT CAREER...

A CURE
A GIFT
A DISCOVERY
A BOOK
A SYMPHONY
AN INTENTION
A SKILL
AN INSIGHT
A LEADER
A LIFE...

WAS
LOST.



Marrin
3-41

About FRAC

The Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) is widely recognized as the leading national group working for more effective public policies to eradicate domestic hunger and undernutrition. FRAC, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was established in 1970.

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Artwork for this scorecard was provided by: Karen's Kids, through Peabody Capitol Hill Cluster School, Washington, DC; Patrick Marrin, Kansas; Center for Third World Organizing, Oakland, CA; and Tomie de Paola.

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