

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

Most recently completed school year:
August 2017 - July 2018 (185 - 195 school days)

- Food Service for the Full-time Schools Program (Programa Escuelas de Tiempo Completo, or PETC)

Lead Agency: Ministry of Public Education (Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP), Unidad Dirección General de Desarrollo de la Gestión Educativa)

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS

- ☒ National school feeding policy
- ☒ Nutrition
- ☒ Food safety
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Private sector involvement

Line item in the national budget... ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NR

BUDGET

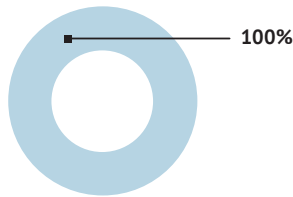
Total:
USD 98,237,019.93

☐ National government:
USD 98,237,019.93

☐ International donors*:
USD 0

☐ Private sector: USD 0

☐ Other donors: USD 0



**Contributions by United Nations agencies or non-governmental organizations often represent funding from multiple donors.*

INFRASTRUCTURE

Some schools have electricity, piped and clean water, and latrines or toilets, but few schools have cafeterias and kitchens. Some kitchens are enclosed; stoves may be wood, charcoal, gas, or electric.

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Take-home rations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dinner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conditional cash transfer |
-
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grains/cereals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roots, tubers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Green, leafy vegetables |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legumes and nuts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other vegetables |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dairy products | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fruits |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eggs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oil |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meat | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar |

Prohibited food items: Food and drinks that are a source of simple sugars, refined flours, fats or sodium, or do not meet established nutritional criteria.

FOOD SOURCES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchased (domestic) | <input type="checkbox"/> In-kind (domestic) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchased (foreign) | <input type="checkbox"/> In-kind (foreign) |

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handwashing with soap | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hearing testing/treatment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Height measurement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental cleaning/testing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weight measurement | <input type="checkbox"/> Menstrual hygiene |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deworming treatment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drinking water |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eye testing/eyeglasses | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water purification |

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- EDUCATION**
- ☐ Nutrition
 - ☒ Health
 - ☒ Food and agriculture
 - ☐ Reproductive health
 - ☒ Hygiene
 - ☐ HIV prevention

- OTHER**
- ☒ School gardens
 - ☒ Physical education

☒ = mandatory

The checked and highlighted items are reported as required, though they may not be uniformly implemented.

UNITED MEXICAN STATES

Mexico



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

COVERAGE:

TOTAL NUMBER OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN:

28,216,840 (UNESCO 2017)

SPECIAL NOTES:

The PETC Program in Mexico only targets full-time schools. There are 2,710,025 primary and secondary students enrolled in the full-time schools, 1,344,912 (49.6% of the enrolled students) received school food in the 2017/18 school year.

Food was also provided to some students in

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pre-schools | <input type="checkbox"/> vocational/trade schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University/higher education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |



GCNF is a non-political, non-profit entity incorporated in 2006. Funding for this survey and a follow-up survey in 2021 is being provided, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture under agreement number FX18TA-10960G002.

NUTRITION

School feeding program(s) include/involve the following:

- ☒ **Fortified foods**
- ☐ Bio-fortified foods
- ☐ Micronutrient supplements
- ☒ **Nutritionists involved**
- ☐ Special training for cooks/caterers in nutrition
- ☐ Objective to meet nutritional goals
- ☐ Objective to reduce obesity

Food items fortified:

Grains/cereals, dairy

Micronutrients added to fortified foods:

Iron, Vitamin A, Calcium

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There are 33 nutritionists involved in the program, one in each state, and one at the national level. Cooks are trained in nutrition. Nutritional monitoring, de-worming, and clean water are required complementary activities.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

13,838	Cooks and food preparers
NR	Transporters
NR	Off-site processors
NR	Food packagers and handlers
NR	Monitoring
32	Food service management
NR	Safety and quality inspectors
NR	Other

Farmers were involved with the school feeding program(s)...

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ NR

Other private sector (for profit) actors were involved...

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ NR

There was a focus on creating jobs or leadership or income-generating opportunities for...

- ☐ Women
- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Other groups

There was community engagement (by parents or others) in the school feeding program(s)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ NR

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Schools that wish to participate in the program must send a "School Commitment Letter"; mothers, parents, or guardians are asked to voluntarily support the program locally on a daily basis. The PETC program provides financial support to School Food Coordinators, but the Coordinators do not formally work for the program. Most cooks are paid and receive training in nutrition, portion control, menu planning, and food safety. Most (75-100%) of the cooks are women.

CONTACTS: MEXICO

Agency: Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP)

Website: <https://www.gob.mx/sep>

Email: N/A

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Three positive developments related to the school meal program in Mexico over the past five years are: a) an increase in the population served, b) linking food with education to create healthy habits for students and families, and c) it has boosted the local economy.

Strengths of the program are that it benefits students in communities with high rates of poverty and marginalization and encourages them to stay in the school system; it encourages active participation by the school community; it has a high acceptance rate; and it teaches healthy eating habits. In addition, the program has received positive recognition from international institutions.

Budget cuts have slowed progress in adding more schools to the program, and the school environment has not allowed positive progress in creating a food culture for prevention of obesity and reduction in rates of malnutrition.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

A 2018 UNICEF study reported that 65.8% of students indicated that the first food they consume in a day is provided by the program and that parents are happy with and value the program. Full-Time Schools Program Food Service Assessment, SEP, National Institute of Public Health, UNICEF, 2018: https://www.unicef.org/mexico/spanish/Fichas_SA_PETC.pdf

RESEARCH NEEDED

Impact assessments (academic achievement linked to school meal service; student measurements and academic achievement); qualitative studies related to perceptions of the program.

FOOD SERVICE FOR THE FULL-TIME SCHOOLS PROGRAM (PROGRAMA ESCUELAS DE TIEMPO COMPLETO, OR PETC)

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Public Education (Secretaría de Educación Pública (SEP), Unidad Dirección General de Desarrollo de la Gestión Educativa)

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals
- Conditional cash transfer

TARGETING:

Geographic and individual characteristics

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	134,093	49%	51%
Primary school	1,190,887	49%	51%
Secondary school	154,025	49%	51%
Other: Special Education	11,353	45%	55%
Total	1,490,358		

FOOD ITEMS:

Grains/cereals*	Poultry	Eggs
Legumes and nuts	Meat	Roots/tubers
Dairy products*	Green, leafy vegetables	Fruits
Fish	Other vegetables	Oil
* fortified		

FOOD SOURCES:

100% Purchased (domestic)	0% In-kind (domestic)
0% Purchased (foreign)	0% In-kind (foreign)

NOTES:

The program targets full-time schools in areas of need (based on rates of poverty and marginalization), and local governments manage the program. There were 13,708 participating schools in the 2017-18 school year. Food was provided 5 days a week for 10 months and 36% of the food purchased for the program was procured from local sources.

