SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)
School year: 2020–2021
• Swiss quality standards for mid-day meals

Lead Agency: Not reported

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS
☐ National school feeding policy
☐ Nutrition
☐ Food safety
☐ Health
☐ Agriculture
☐ Private sector involvement

Line item in the national budget...
☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ No response

INFRASTRUCTURE
All schools in Switzerland have electricity, clean water, and dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias, and most school have kitchens. The kitchens typically have refrigeration, electric stoves, and storage facilities.

SPECIAL NOTES
While some guidance is provided at the federal level, school feeding in Switzerland is the responsibility of regional authorities (cantons), local authorities (communities, schools), or the private sector.

GCNF GLOBAL SURVEY 2021

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GCNF is a non-political, non-profit entity. Funding for the 2019 and 2021 surveys is provided, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture; agreement number FX18TA-10960G002.
NUTRITION

School feeding program(s) included/involved 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/biofortified:
Not applicable

Micronutrients:
Not applicable

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*
- Cooks and food preparers
- Transporters
- Off-site processors
- Food packagers and handlers
- Monitoring
- Food service management
- Safety and quality inspectors
- Other

*If blank, no response was provided.

Farmers were involved with the school feeding program(s)...  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ No response

Other private sector (for profit) actors were involved...
☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ No response

There was a focus on creating jobs or leadership or income-generating opportunities for...
- Women  ☐ No response
- Other groups  ☐ No response
- Youth  ☐ No response

There was community engagement (by parents or others) in the school feeding program(s)...  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ No response

Were there links between food banks and the school feeding program(s)?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ No response

CONTACTS: SWITZERLAND

Agency: RADIX Swiss Foundation of Health
Website: https://www.radix.ch/de/

SUCCESES AND CHALLENGES

Recent successes related to school feeding in Switzerland have included greater coverage (benefiting more students) and an increased awareness on the part of authorities, parents, and school staff of the importance of healthy and sustainable eating habits. Challenges include the imperative to improve working conditions (with adequate work hours and job security) and provide training for employees.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic caused school feeding operations in Switzerland to be temporarily suspended as schools were closed for 12 weeks in early 2020, with remote instruction taking place wherever possible. However, there were no disruptions to school operations or school feeding during the 2020–2021 school year.
SWISS QUALITY STANDARDS FOR MID-DAY MEALS

Lead implementer(s): Not reported

OBJECTIVES:
• To meet educational goals
• To meet nutritional and/or health goals
• To prevent or mitigate obesity

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
• In-school meals

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:
• During the school year

TARGETING:
Targeting strategies vary widely as they are the responsibility of regional authorities, schools, or private entities.

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th># Students</th>
<th>% Girls</th>
<th>% Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>66,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>81,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:
Grains, cereals  Meat  Fruits
Roots, tubers    Poultry  Oil
Legumes, pulses, nuts Fish  Salt
Dairy products   Green, leafy vegetables  Sugar
Eggs             Other vegetables

FOOD SOURCES:
No information provided

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
The federal government contributes to the development costs of the school meal program, while the cantons and communes finance its implementation. The program is highly decentralized, with decisions made by regional and local governments and individual schools.