

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021

- School Lunch Program
(*Khrong kan Arhan KrangwanKhrong*)
- School Milk Program
(*Kan Ahanserm (Nom) Rongrian*)

Lead Agency:

Office of the Basic Education Commission (OBEC),
Ministry of Education

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS

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

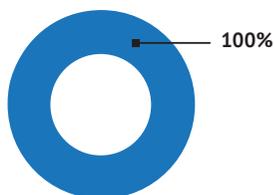
Line item in the national budget...

- Yes No No response

BUDGET

Total: USD 1,045,111,212

- Government:
USD 1,045,111,212
- International donors*:
USD 0
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0



Includes funding from the United States Department
of Agriculture Yes No No response

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

INFRASTRUCTURE

All or nearly all schools in Thailand have electricity, piped
and clean water, latrines, dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias,
and kitchens. Both gas stoves and charcoal or wood stoves are
used in the school kitchens.

SPECIAL NOTES

Population and enrollment numbers from the UNESCO
Institute of Statistics (UIS) were used to complete this report.

MEALS/SNACKS/MODALITY

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner
- Snacks
- Take-home rations
- Other

- Grains, cereals
- Roots, tubers
- Legumes, pulses, nuts
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Meat
- Poultry
- Fish
- Green, leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Oil
- Salt
- Sugar

- Dairy milk
- Yogurt drink
- Fruit juice
- Tea
- Water
- Other

Prohibited food items: "Junk food"

FOOD SOURCES

- Purchased (domestic)
- Purchased (foreign)
- In-kind (domestic)
- In-kind (foreign)

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

- Handwashing with soap
- Height measurement
- Weight measurement
- Testing for anemia
- Deworming treatment
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- Hearing testing/treatment
- Dental cleaning/testing
- Menstrual hygiene
- Drinking water
- Water purification

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Food and nutrition
- Agriculture
- School gardens
- Hygiene
- Health
- Reproductive health
- HIV prevention
- Physical education

The checked items were provided in most or all participating schools.



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KINGDOM OF Thailand



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	2,244,861	1,688,526	875,960
Primary school	4,710,334	4,886,781	3,063,142
Secondary school	5,077,238	5,854,817	0
Total	12,032,433	12,430,124	3,939,102

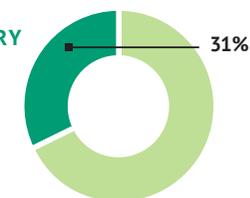
While this report describes in detail the two large-scale school feeding
programs in Thailand, the numbers of students receiving food in the table
above is inclusive of beneficiaries in programs of all sizes.



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and
secondary school-age
children: 9,787,572

Receiving school food:
■ 3,063,142



Food was also provided to some students in...

- Pre-schools
- Vocational/trade schools
- Other

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:

Grains/cereals, legumes, oil, salt, among others

Micronutrients:

Iron, iodine, among others

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Micronutrient supplements were added to the food and also given directly to the children. Foods produced in school gardens are partly consumed by the students and partly sold. Efforts to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity include nutritional requirements for school menus, food restrictions on or near school groups, food and nutrition education, health education, and physical education in the schools.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

Studies have been conducted regarding the school feeding budget

RESEARCH NEEDED

None specified

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

50,000	Cooks and food preparers
3,000	Transporters
	Off-site processors
	Food packagers and handlers
245	Monitoring
	Food service management
29,642	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 Other groups
 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 There are no food banks in this country.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Competitive processes are followed to secure contracts for the school feeding programs, with preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/small farmer associations/small companies. Engagement with the programs on the part of students' parents is voluntary but encouraged.

CONTACTS: THAILAND

Agency: Ministry of Education

Website: <http://www.en.moe.go.th/enMoe2017/>

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Among the successes related to school feeding in Thailand, students have access to nutritious food, school meals/snacks prevent malnutrition in children, and there has been an increase in students' academic achievement. However, funding for the school feeding programs was inadequate in the 2020–2021 school year, and school principals had to solicit support from the community and the Local Administration Officer. Augmentation of the school feeding budget is therefore warranted.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Schools in Thailand were generally open during the 2020–2021 school year, with the exception of June 2021 when schools operated remotely. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of students who received food through school feeding programs decreased, and there was a temporary change in feeding modality. Specifically, while schools were closed, meals were not provided at school, but the students' families were provided with cash/monetary support or vouchers to purchase food. Thailand was also affected by an economic/financial crisis during the 2020–2021 school year.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM KHRONG KAN ARHAN KRANGWANKHRONG

Lead implementer(s): Office of the Basic Education Commission (OBEC)

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- To prevent or mitigate obesity
- To meet agricultural goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:

Universal (preschools and primary schools)

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	872,161	52%	48%
Primary school	3,036,882	52%	48%
Secondary school	0	–	–
Total	3,909,043	52%	48%

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals*	Fish	Sugar*
Legumes, pulses, nuts*	Green, leafy vegetables*	Dairy milk
Dairy products	Other vegetables*	Fruit Juice
Eggs*	Fruits*	Water
Meat	Oil*	
Poultry*	Salt*	

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

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

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The School Lunch Program began in 1952 and, as of 2020–2021, operated in 29,642 schools—all the schools under the Office of the Basic Education Commission (OBEC).



SCHOOL MILK PROGRAM KAN AHANERM (NOM) RONGRIAN

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Agriculture

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- To prevent or mitigate obesity
- To meet agricultural goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school snacks

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:

Universal (pre-schools and primary schools, with access to school lunches regarded in Thailand as a right for all students under age 12)

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	872,161	52%	48%
Primary school	3,036,882	52%	48%
Secondary school	0	–	–
Total	3,909,043	52%	48%

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Dairy milk

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

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

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The School Milk Program began in 1952. Food costs account for about 70% of the program costs, while the remaining 30% is used for handling, storage, and transportation of the milk.