STATE OF

Kuwait

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM(S)
School year: 2020–2021
• The National Project for Feeding Primary School Students – Project for the Development of School Canteens

Lead Agency: The Ministry of Education, the General Authority for Food and Nutrition, and the Ministry of Health

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

INFRUSTRUCRTURE
All schools in Kuwait have electricity, piped and clean water, and latrines. Some schools have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias, while no schools have kitchens. Foods made available in the National Project for Feeding Primary School Students / Project for the Development of School Canteens are purchased in processed form, thus are not prepared in a kitchen.

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

BUDGET
Total: Unknown
☐ Government: Unknown
☐ 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.

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES
☐ Handwashing with soap
☐ Height measurement
☐ Weight measurement
☐ Testing for anemia
☐ Deworming treatment
☐ Eye testing/eyeglasses

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS
☐ Food and nutrition
☐ Agriculture
☐ School gardens
☐ Hygiene

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

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: Sugary drinks, candy, fried foods, ultra-processed foods, foods or beverages containing additives

FOOD SOURCES
☐ Purchased (domestic)
☐ Purchased (foreign)
☐ In-kind (domestic)
☐ In-kind (foreign)

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

School level
Pre-school
Primary school
Secondary school
Total

# Enrolled
124,911
319,602
361,688
806,201

# Receiving food
75,256
278,958
302,047
656,261

NUMBER STUDENTS RECEIVING FOOD

COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN
Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 681,290

Receiving school food:
☐ Unknown

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
- Objective to meet nutritional goals
- Objective to reduce obesity

Food items fortified/biofortified:
Grains/cereals, salt, sugar

Micronutrients:
Iron, calcium, vitamin B12, vitamin C, vitamin D

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
At least 10–15 nutritionists are engaged in school canteens programs in Kuwait. Fruit juices or nectars made available in canteens are natural juice, with limited amounts of added sugar.

STUDIES CONDUCTED
The Nutritional Surveillance Program Questionnaire for School Canteens is implemented by the Food and Nutrition General Authority.

RESEARCH NEEDED
The Nutritional Surveillance Program of the Ministry of Health will be conducting research on canteens.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
Jobs created by school feeding programs*
- Cooks and food preparers
- Transports
- 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 □ 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
The National Project for Feeding Primary School Students and the Project for the Development of School Canteens are managed by the national government in a centralized manner. Canteens adhere to a specified policy for contracting with food producers and suppliers.

CONTACTS: KUWAIT
Agency: Public Authority for Food and Nutrition
Website: https://www.pafn.gov.kw

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES
Recent successes related to school feeding in Kuwait include the continued development of the school canteen program for the primary stage, and the development of school canteens for the primary, intermediate, and secondary stages in 2021. In addition, a regulation for school canteens was issued in 2021 and approved by the Minister of Health.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC
Schools in Kuwait were closed but operating remotely for several months in the 2020–2021 school year. The COVID-19 pandemic prompted a temporary disruption in school feeding operations, and also resulted in a decrease in funding for school feeding, the number of students fed, and the frequency of school feeding. The pandemic also prompted a change in the venue (location) of school meals (e.g., fewer children eating together at the same time).
THE NATIONAL PROJECT FOR FEEDING PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS – PROJECT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL CANTEENS

Leads implementer(s): The Ministry of Education and the General Authority for Food and Nutrition and School Health / Ministry of Health

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

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:
- In-school snacks

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:
- 5 days per week during the school year

TARGETING:
Targeting criteria not specified.

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>Unknown</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 national canteen program began in 2019.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:
- Grains, cereals*
- Dairy products
- Other vegetables
- Fruits
- Salt*
- Sugar*
- Dairy milk
- Yogurt drink
- Fruit juice
- Water

* fortified