SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021
• National School Feeding Programme

Lead Agency: Department of Education, Student Welfare Unit

NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND STANDARDS

National school feeding policy
Food safety
Health
Agriculture
Private sector involvement

Line item in the national budget...

Yes  No  No response

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.

BUDGET

Total: USD 407,028
Government: USD 407,028
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

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

Saint Lucia

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th># Enrolled</th>
<th># Receiving food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>4,432</td>
<td>3,236</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>13,900</td>
<td>13,750</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>10,300</td>
<td>10,229</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>28,632</td>
<td>27,215</td>
<td>7,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NUMBER STUDENTS RECEIVING FOOD

3 years prior | 1 year prior | 2020–2021
0 | 4,000 | 4,000
2,000 | 6,000 | 6,000
4,000 | 8,000 | 8,000
6,000 | 10,000 | 10,000
8,000 | 12,000 | 12,000
10,000 | 14,000 | 14,000
12,000 | 16,000 | 16,000

COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 24,200
Receiving school food: 7,700

Food was also provided to some students in...
Pre-schools
Vocational/trade schools
Other

SPECIAL NOTES

Some population numbers from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) were used to complete this report.

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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 programs 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*
116
- 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
- Youth
- Other groups
- 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
Farmers sell directly to the school feeding program, providing green, leafy vegetables, eggs, and roots/tubers for the school menu. There are also youth programs aimed specifically at engaging the youth.

RESEARCH NEEDED
None specified

STUDIES CONDUCTED
A Review of School Feeding Programmes in the Caribbean Community’ was produced by the FAO in 2021 and includes a case study and net benefit analysis of the National School Feeding Programme in Saint Lucia.

CONTACTS: SAINT LUCIA
Agency: Ministry of Education
Website: www.education.gov.lc

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES
Recent successes associated with school feeding in Saint Lucia include greater awareness and appreciation for the National School Feeding Programme, engagement with local farmers to support the economy, and the incorporation of school gardens in the program. Challenges include a lack of funds and a shortage of imported goods. There is also a need for greater creativity on the part of cooks and caterers, and for more support from other government agencies to sustain the feeding program. In addition, there are some concerns related to mismanagement and food waste.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC
The COVID-19 pandemic caused schools in Saint Lucia to operate remotely for at least some months in the 2020–2021 school year. In addition to this public health emergency, the country is also affected by natural disasters.
NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of Education and the World Food Program

OBJECTIVES:
- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- 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:
Students receive meals based on requests from the students themselves, their parents, or principals and teachers who assess the students’ needs.

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>7,000</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,700</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

FOOD SOURCES:
- 100% Purchased (domestic)
- 0% Purchased (foreign)
- 0% In-kind (domestic)
- 0% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
A National School Feeding Committee coordinates school feeding activities in Saint Lucia and is comprised of representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture, Health, and Education, as well as the private sector and the teachers' union. The school meal program aims to reduce food waste through the use of sealed storage, fumigation, and the use of nearly-expired food. The program also limits package waste through re-use and recycling of bags and containers.