SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)
Most recently completed school year: January – December 2018 (180 school days)
- School Feeding Program (Programa de Alimentación Escolar, P.A.E.)

Lead Agency: Ministry of National Education

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

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

COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES
- Handwashing with soap
- Height measurement
- Deworming treatment
- Eye testing/eyeglasses
- = mandatory

COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS
- Nutrition
- Health
- Food and agriculture
- Reproductive health
- Hygiene
- HIV prevention

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

SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS
CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School level</th>
<th>Total #</th>
<th># Enrolled</th>
<th># Receiving Food</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>5,273,798</td>
<td>3,334,044</td>
<td>2,732,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>4,835,461</td>
<td>3,692,802</td>
<td>2,092,684</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 10,109,259

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SPECIAL NOTES
Local government and parent contributions cover about 30% of the cost of the program.

NR = No Response
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 meet educational goals
- Objective to reduce obesity

Food items fortified: Grains and dairy products
Micronutrients added to fortified foods: Iron

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

75 nutritionists are involved in school feeding programs in Colombia, and nutrition education is provided for students as a means to prevent or mitigate obesity. Cooks are trained in nutrition, portion control/measurement, menu planning, and food safety and hygiene.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs

25,509
- Cooks and food preparers
- NR Transporters
- NR Off-site processors
- NR Food packagers and handlers
- NR Monitoring
- NR 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

Farmers are involved and forward contracting is a method used. About 20% of the school food purchased was from smallholder farmers, who have been able to successfully compete for contracts. National and sub-national-level companies also were involved in the program. Most or all (75-100%) of the cooks in the program are women, of differing ethnicity, and all were paid by national, regional, and/or local government. 96% of Certified Territorial Entities met with communities to explain the program and reach agreement and solutions for any challenges encountered.

CONTACTS: REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

Agency: Ministry of National Education
Website: https://www.mineducacion.gov.co/portal/micrositios-preescolar-basica-y-media/Programa-de-Alimentacion-Escolar-PAE/

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

School feeding programs in Colombia have been affected by conflict and by the increase of immigrant students. These emergency conditions required more children to be fed and increased the frequency of school feeding. Colombia reported that a success of the program is that regional entities are implementers for educational processes, including school feeding and are responsible for co-financing the operation of the program, its recruitment and timely supervision. Strengths of the program cited are effective community engagement and strengthening citizen participation through the creation and promotion of School Feeding Committees that comply with program guidelines, and the realization of schools as public platforms, as well as the promotion of social control mechanisms to encourage citizen oversight. Also, encouraging the purchase of food from small-scale local producers can boost family farming, improve the nutritional quality of food, and promote adequate eating habits.

Challenges associated with the Colombia school feeding program include: Accounting for different regional consumption habits, systematizing information from focal points for a better understanding of the coverage of the program, and strengthening monitoring and control by the Certified Territorial Entities.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

None

RESEARCH NEEDED

NR
**SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM**  
*PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTACIÓN ESCOLAR, P.A.E.*

Lead implementer(s): Ministry of National Education

**OBJECTIVES:**
- To meet educational goals

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

**TARGETING:**
Geographic and based on individual characteristics of the students

**HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2018 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>562,286*</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school</td>
<td>2,732,534</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school</td>
<td>2,092,684</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,387,504</strong></td>
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<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The number of pre-school children receiving food is an estimate only.

**FOOD ITEMS:**
- Grains/cereals*
- Legumes & nuts
- Dairy products*
- Eggs
- Fish
  * fortified
- Poultry
- Meats
- Green leafy vegetables
- Roots/tubers
- Others
- Fruits
- Salt
- Sugar
- Oil
- Sugar

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

**NOTES:**
In 2018, the school meal program consisted of in-school meals provided five times per week for the ten months of the school year. Some school meals were prepared on-site, some off-site, and some school food was purchased in processed form. Nearly 85% of participating schools had on-site kitchens.