

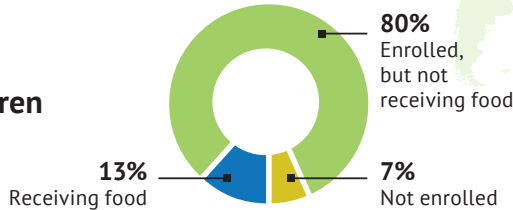


REPUBLIC OF THE Philippines

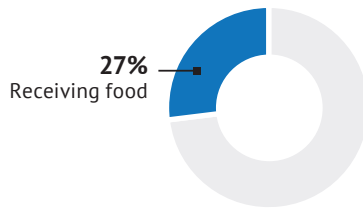


School Meal Coverage (2022-2023)

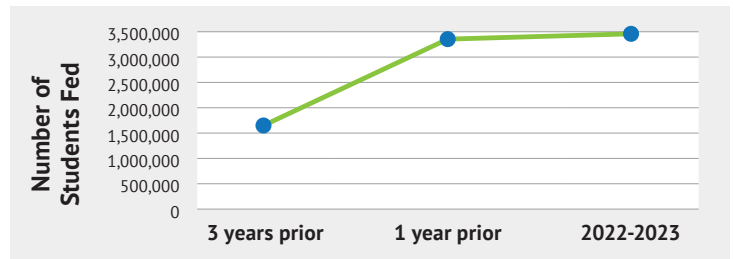
All Primary and Secondary School-age Children



Only Enrolled Primary Students



School Level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Preschool	2,326,028	2,179,892	0
Primary School	13,854,605	12,728,441	3,491,028
Secondary School	13,425,617	12,575,149	0
TOTAL	29,606,250	27,483,482	3,491,028



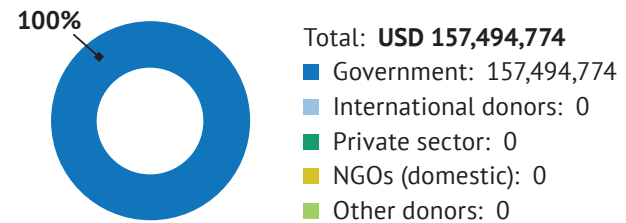
National Laws, Policies, and Standards

- National school feeding policy
- Nutrition
- Health
- Food safety
- Smallholder farms
- Agriculture (apart from smallholders)
- Climate/environment policy
- Private sector involvement
- Other

The country had ...

- Inter-sectoral coordination committee for school feeding
- National system for monitoring school feeding

Budget



- Line item in the national budget for school feeding

School Foods and Beverages

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whole grains | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish and shellfish | <input type="checkbox"/> Liquid oils |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refined/milled grains | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep orange vegetables and tubers | <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-solid and solid fats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blended grain-based products | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White roots and tubers | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legumes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fruits | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dairy milk |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nuts and seeds | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dark green leafy vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> Yogurt drink |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eggs | <input type="checkbox"/> Cruciferous vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> 100% fruit juice |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dairy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other vegetables | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other fruit drink |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry and game meat | <input type="checkbox"/> Deep-fried foods | <input type="checkbox"/> Tea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red meat | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweets | <input type="checkbox"/> Other sugar-sweetened beverages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Processed meat | | |

Prohibited food items
Foods with excessive salt, sugar, or saturated fat

Food Sources

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

Special Notes: Population and enrollment numbers from the UNESCO Institute of Statistics were used to complete this report.

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 reduce obesity

Limitations on food and beverage marketing...

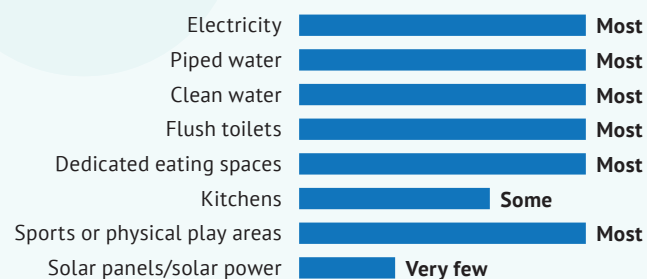
- On school grounds**
- To school age children**

Additional Information

Twenty-one nutritionists (5 at the national level and 16 at the regional level) were engaged with the School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP). Rice and bread fortified with iron, iodine, calcium, and vitamins A and C were served in the program, and no beverages with non-nutritive or artificial sweeteners were available to students. Produce from school gardens was partly consumed by the students in school and partly distributed to them for home consumption. Approaches used to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity included nutritional requirements for school food, food and/or beverage restrictions on or near school grounds, limited food and/or beverage marketing to children, food and nutrition education, health education, and physical education.

Infrastructure, Employment, and Complementary Features

Share of Schools with ...



Employment

Total number of cooks/caterers: **Unknown**

- Percent paid: Unknown
- Percent women: Unknown

There was a focus on creating job opportunities for...

- Women
- Youth
- Other Groups

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
- School gardens**

Complementary Education Programs

- Food and nutrition**
- Agriculture**
- Environment/climate/sustainability**
- Hygiene**
- Health**
- Reproductive health**
- HIV prevention**
- Physical education**
- Mental health**

Additional Information

Both small and medium/large-scale farms were involved with the School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP) by selling directly (or through their farmer organizations) to the program, and the Departments of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform provided relevant assistance to farmers. The private sector was engaged in food processing and transport and the donation of food or supplies. Students' families also help with the hauling and distribution of food items.

Environmental Sustainability

Targeted climate-friendly foods

- Yes No

Steps taken to limit food waste

- Sealed food storage**
- Fumigation/pest control in storage area
- Use of hermetic bags or larger hermetic storage system
- Routine testing/monitoring of dry food storage
- Use of nearly-expired food
- Use of usable but “imperfect” commodities or produce
- Campaign to reduce how much food students throw away**

Steps taken to limit package waste

- Re-use of bags/containers**
- Recycling
- Use of compostable materials**
- Use of “bulk serve” containers
- Prohibiting specific types of packaging**

Additional Information

Complementing the provision of school food, environmental/ climate/sustainability education was integrated into most or all participating school curriculums. Food servings were portioned to minimize wastage.

Emergencies

Experienced disruptions to school feeding due to emergencies

- Yes No

Strategies to address the impact of emergencies

- Seek alternative food sources or suppliers**
- Changes in numbers of students fed**
- Negotiate better prices with existing suppliers
- Establish alternative supply routes or transportation methods
- Source different or alternative food
- Release of food reserves
- Increase funding or budget allocation for school feeding
- Collaborate with local producers or suppliers to reduce dependence on global supply chains
- Changes in delivery method**
- Changes in feeding modality**
- Changes in feeding frequency
- No particular strategy was used

Additional Information

In the 2022-2023 school year, school feeding in the Philippines was affected by supply chain issues and a health epidemic/ pandemic. All schools in the country were closed for at least one month, causing school feeding operations to cease temporarily. These emergencies had the effect of significantly decreasing the accessibility (availability and affordability) of food for the school feeding program. At the same time, the emergencies ultimately resulted in stronger collaboration among school feeding partners and stakeholders.

Successes and Challenges

Successes

1. Improved nutritional status of the beneficiaries
2. Reduced absenteeism and improved class participation among the beneficiaries
3. The program offered a social safety net with both education and health benefits to undernourished learners
4. Improved food security at the household level

Challenges

1. Delayed implementation due to a lack of suppliers of food products in the provinces
2. Lack of milk supply in some areas of the country
3. Challenges in the distribution of food commodities in more remote (far-flung) areas
4. Funding for Fiscal Year 2022 was reduced, which resulted in fewer feeding days.

School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP)

Management

- Lead implementer(s): Department of Education
- The program was managed with both centralized and decentralized decision-making (Semi-decentralized).
- Local government procured the food

How Many Students Received Food

School Level	# of Students	% Girls	% Boys
Preschool	0	—	—
Primary School	3,491,028	—	—
Secondary School	0	—	—
TOTAL	3,491,028	—	—

Foods and Beverages

- Refined/milled grains
- Legumes
- Nuts and seeds
- Eggs
- Dairy
- Deep orange vegetables and tubers
- White roots and tubers
- Fruits
- Dark green leafy vegetables
- Other vegetables
- Dairy milk
- Other fruit drink

Elements of Home-Grown School Feeding

- Objective for small-scale farmers to benefit from access to a stable market
- Local food sourcing
- Small-scale farmers involved by selling directly (or through their farmer organization) to the program or the schools
- Additional support provided to small-scale farmers
- Country had a law/policy/standard related to small-scale farmers and school feeding programs
- Preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/small farmer organizations/small companies in tendering procedures
- Effort is made to reduce food miles

Objectives

- To meet educational goals
- To reduce hunger
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- To meet agricultural goals

Modalities of Providing Students With Food

- In-school meals
- In-school snacks
- Take-home rations

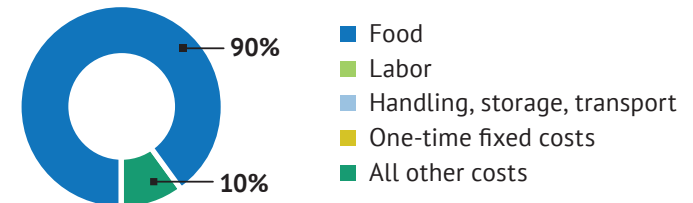
Frequency and Duration

- 5 times per week for in-school meals/snacks; take-home rations were provided when schools closed due to community quarantines
- During the school year (in-school meals/snacks); and when schools were closed due to community quarantines (take-home rations)

Targeting

- Grade levels (kindergarten to grade 6) and individual characteristics (targeting children who are nutritionally deficient)

Expenses



Food Sources

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

Additional Information

The School-Based Feeding Program (SBFP) was introduced in 1997. The nutritional status of all elementary school children was evaluated at the start of the school year, and all wasted and severely wasted learners were automatically enrolled in the program.

The Global Survey of School Meal Programs® collects data from government sources and is funded, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture. Contact info@gcnf.org for more information.

Citation: Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF). 2024. Global Survey of School Meal Programs Country Report, Philippines. <https://gcnf.org/country-reports/>