



SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
Viet Nam



School Meal Coverage (2022-2023)

School Level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving Food
Preschool	4,455,852	3,863,032	Unknown
Primary School	7,472,688	9,201,399	Unknown
Secondary School	9,886,662	9,614,727	Unknown
TOTAL	21,815,202	22,679,158	Unknown

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 policy

The country had ...

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

Budget

Total: **Unknown**

- Government: Unknown
- International donors: Unknown
- Private sector: Unknown
- NGOs (domestic): Unknown
- Other donors: Unknown

- Line item in the national budget for school feeding

School Foods and Beverages

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

Prohibited food items

Foods that are harmful to health, such as those high in sugar or fat, and certain processed items or school-based snacks. The list of prohibited foods depends on the locality.

Food Sources

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

Special Notes: Population and school enrollment numbers from the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) 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...

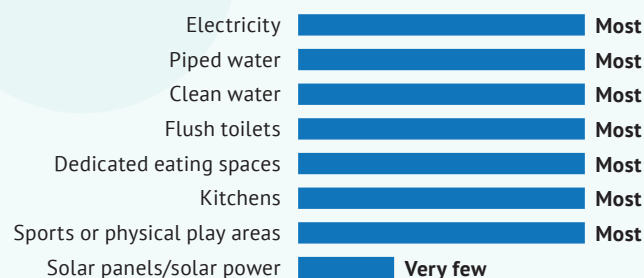
- On school grounds**
- To school age children**

Additional Information

The program served various food items fortified with iron, iodine, zinc, folic acid, thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, calcium, selenium, and vitamins A, B6, B12, and C. Students also received nutritional supplements or micronutrient powders containing iron, iodine, zinc, folic acid, and vitamin A, either mixed into food or as pills or drops. The program engaged nutritionists and, to prevent overweight/obesity, implemented nutritional requirements for food baskets, restrictions to food and beverages in or near schools, limits to food and beverage marketing to children, education on food, nutrition, and health, and physical education.

Infrastructure, Employment, and Complementary Features

Share of Schools with ...



Employment

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

- Percent paid: 100%
- 75-99% women

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 farmers were engaged in the program, and small-scale farmers received preferential treatment in competitive tendering procedures. While small-scale farmers benefited from agricultural subsidies, medium/large-scale farmers were also supported with mobile or electronic payments and school-feeding specific training. Student families paid all or part of the cost of the meal, as well as provided mandatory in-kind contributions. The private sector was involved in food trading and processing, transport, catering, selling or renting supplies, donating food, supplies or funds, and providing technical assistance.

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

Typical school kitchens included enclosed cooking areas, access to both piped and non-piped water, secure storage, electricity, serving utensils, charcoal or wood stove, and refrigeration. Produce from school gardens was consumed by the students.

Emergencies

Experienced disruptions to school feeding due to emergencies

- Yes No No response

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

The program was affected by a slow-onset emergency, natural disaster, supply chain issues, and extreme food price inflation, all of which significantly reduced food accessibility.

Successes and Challenges

Successes

In the 2022-2023 school year, funding was considered adequate to achieve program targets. The program’s targets were considered to be at least mostly achieved in terms of the number of students receiving food, feeding frequency, ration size, level of food basket variety, and the number of schools receiving food.

Challenges

None reported

School Meal Program

Management

- Lead implementer(s): Ministry of education and training; Ministry of Health
- The national government managed the program (Centralized decision-making).
- Regional government procured the food

How Many Students Received Food

School Level	# of Students	% Girls	% Boys
Preschool	Unknown	–	–
Primary School	Unknown	–	–
Secondary School	Unknown	–	–
TOTAL	Unknown	–	–

Foods and Beverages

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

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 provide a social safety net
- To address gender-specific challenges
- To reduce hunger
- 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
- In-school snacks

Frequency and Duration

- 5 times per week
- During the school year

Targeting

- Targeted by grade levels (1 to 9), school type (public schools), and geography (disadvantaged areas)

Food Sources

No information

Additional Information

The Government of Vietnam supports the cost of school meals for disadvantaged areas around 10,000–12,000 Vietnamese Dong per day or 220,000–700,000 Vietnamese Dong per student per year for public school.

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.

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