

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2021

- Eat Up Australia
- Various State-Level Programs

Lead Agency: State governments

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

BUDGET

Total: Unknown

- Government: Unknown
- International donors*: Unknown
- Private sector: Unknown
- Other donors: Unknown

The total budget for school feeding activities in Australia was not reported. The budget for the Eat Up Australia program was USD 489,628, of which 59% was from the private sector and 41% was from donations and grants.

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.*

INFRASTRUCTURE

Meals in the Eat Up Australia program are prepared off-site by volunteers at workplaces, schools, and community groups. Food is delivered to schools every three weeks, stored in freezers, and defrosted as necessary when students attend school without lunch.

SPECIAL NOTES

This report includes information only from the Eat Up Australia program, although various other state-level programs are active in Australia. This report therefore is not a comprehensive overview of school feeding activities in the country. Population and enrollment numbers from the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) were used to complete this report.

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: No response

FOOD SOURCES

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

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.



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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-1096OG002.



Australia



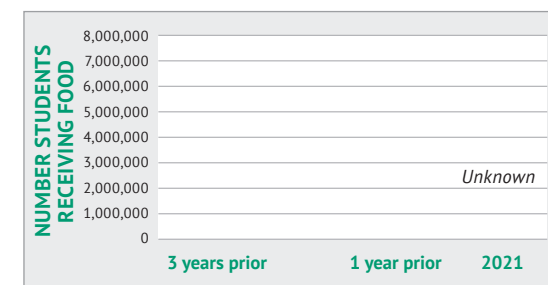
SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2021

School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	330,328	539,365	*
Primary school	2,291,309	2,263,884	*
Secondary school	1,871,818	2,572,153	*
Total	4,493,455	5,375,402	*

The Eat Up Australia program reached 85,000 primary and secondary students in the 2021 school year.

* Unknown



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 4,163,127

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**
- Special training for cooks/caterers in nutrition
- Objective to meet nutritional goals**
- Objective to reduce obesity

Food items fortified/biofortified:

Grains/cereals

Micronutrients:

Zinc, folic acid, thiamine, niacin, vitamin B6

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At least one nutritionist/dietician is involved in the Eat Up Australia program. Some packaged, processed foods are included in the school meals. Although obesity is considered to be a problem in Australia, the Eat Up Australia program does not take specific measures to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

None reported

RESEARCH NEEDED

Not specified

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

- Cooks and food preparers
- 4** Transporters
- Off-site processors
- Food packagers and handlers
- Monitoring
- 3** Food service management
- Safety and quality inspectors
- 5** 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

Foodbank Australia receives Government funding in some states to administer school breakfast programs and, in at least one case, a limited lunch program. The private sector is engaged in food processing for the Eat Up Australia program, and the program relies on volunteers to make the sandwiches that are delivered to schools.

CONTACTS: AUSTRALIA

Agency: State Departments of Education

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

In the 2021 school year, funding for the Eat Up Australia program was considered to be adequate to achieve program targets.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an increase in funding and in the number of students fed in the Eat Up Australia program. It also prompted a temporary change in feeding modality (e.g., switching from in-school meals to take-home rations) and a temporary change in beneficiaries (e.g., switching from targeting students to targeting families). Specifically, Emergency Food Boxes containing fruits, vegetables, and cereals were delivered to students' families. The pandemic had the effect of demonstrating that schools are a practical and effective avenue for supporting families, and that schools appreciate being able to offer support for families within their community who are struggling.

EAT UP AUSTRALIA

Lead implementer(s): Eat Up Australia
(not-for-profit organization without government funding or ties)

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals
- In-school snacks
- Other

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- Varied (students receive food when they attend school without bringing lunch); biweekly for take-home rations during lockdowns
- During the school year

TARGETING:

Targeted based on individual student characteristics: In-school meals are provided to students who come to school with inadequate food from home, and take-home rations are provided to families in need, as identified by schools.

HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	0	—	—
Primary school	*	—	—
Secondary school	*	—	—
Total	85,000	—	—

The precise breakdown of students across the primary and secondary school levels is not known.

*Unknown

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals*	Dairy products	Fruits
Roots, tubers	Other vegetables	
* fortified		

FOOD SOURCES:

30% Purchased (domestic)	70% In-kind (domestic)
0% Purchased (foreign)	0% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Eat Up Australia began operating in 2015 and was active in 615 public schools and 6 private schools in the 2021 school year. The program aims to reach 100,000 school children in the upcoming school year. Efforts to limit packaging waste include recycling and use of compostable materials, and efforts to limit food waste include the use of sealed food storage.

