

## SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021

- School Feeding (*Prehrana u .koli*)
- National Strategy for the Implementation of the School Scheme from 2017/2023

Lead Agency: Ministry of Healthcare

## 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: USD 205,873
- International donors: USD 1,709,666\*\*
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0

Includes funding from the United States Department of Agriculture  Yes  No  No response

\* The available budget information is inclusive only of funding for the National Strategy for the Implementation of the School Scheme, which totals USD 1,915,539. The total funding for school feeding in Croatia is not known.

\*\* This includes support from the European Union's school fruit, vegetables, and milk scheme. International donations by United Nations agencies or non-governmental organizations often represent funding from multiple donors.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools in Croatia have electricity, piped and clean water, and gender-private flush toilets, while most have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias and kitchens. School meals/snacks are prepared on-site (on school grounds) and off-site in both centralized kitchens as well as private facilities (i.e., by caterers). Kitchens are typically equipped with refrigeration, storage facilities, and gas or electric stoves.

## SPECIAL NOTES

None

## 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:** Foods that are high in fat and/or sugar, including trans fats and animal fat; artificial drinks; highly processed foods

## 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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REPUBLIC OF

• Croatia

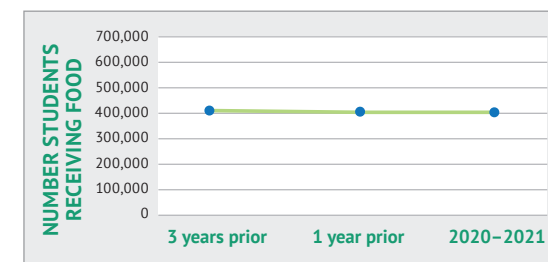


## SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

### CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	109,655	109,655	104,000
Primary school	312,064	312,064	203,183
Secondary school	144,195	144,195	97,953*
<b>Total</b>	<b>565,914</b>	<b>565,914</b>	<b>405,136</b>

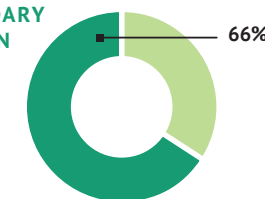
\*This is inclusive of some vocational school students.



### COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 456,259

Receiving school food: 301,136



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:

Dairy products, salt

### Micronutrients:

Iron, iodine, folic acid, vitamin B12, vitamin B6, vitamin D

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

At least two nutritionists are involved with Croatia's E.U. School Scheme. Special training is required for cooks and caterers in nutrition, food safety /hygiene, portion measurements, menu planning, and business management.

## STUDIES CONDUCTED

None

## RESEARCH NEEDED

Not specified

## AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Jobs created by school feeding programs\*

- 1,220**
- 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  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

Food was purchased through open-bid, competitive tendering procedures with preferential treatment for small-scale farmers/ small farmer organizations/small companies. Food preparation is done by school employees (cooks) whose salary is provided by the government.

## CONTACTS: CROATIA

**Agency:** Ministry of Science and Education

**Website:** mzo.gov.hr

## SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Recent successes related to school feeding in Croatia include the expansion of program coverage to almost all children, the adaptability to children's needs and preferences, and the possibility of free meals for children from low-income households.

## EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a temporary change in venue (location) of distributing/receiving food. Nevertheless, schools in Croatia were open most of the 2020–2021 school year, with only minor changes to the schedule, and students had uninterrupted access to the School Feeding program. In addition to the pandemic, Croatia was also affected by an earthquake that demolished some schools. This caused some students to attend classes in other schools which were then overcrowded, making it difficult to comply with public health measures to control the spread of COVID-19.

## SCHOOL FEEDING PREHRANA U .KOLI

**Lead implementer(s):** No lead agency due to decentralized management

### OBJECTIVES:

- To meet nutritional and/or health 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:

Universal (in pre-schools and primary schools)

### HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	104,000	–	–
Primary school	199,720	–	–
Secondary school	0	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>303,720</b>	–	–

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Grains, cereals	Fish	Dairy milk
Roots, tubers	Green, leafy vegetables	Yogurt drink
Legumes, pulses, nuts	Other vegetables	Fruit juice
Dairy products*	Fruits	Tea
Eggs	Oil	Water
Meat	Salt*	
Poultry	Sugar	

\* fortified

### FOOD SOURCES:

Schools have full autonomy in food sourcing; therefore, food sources are not known at the national level.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Croatia's School Feeding program began operating around 1880. In the 2020–2021 school year, this program operated in 902 public schools and 12 private schools. To limit food waste, sealed food storage and fumigation/pest control measures are utilized, alongside efforts to raise awareness of students.



## NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL SCHEME FROM 2017/2023

**Lead implementer(s):** Paying Agency for Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development

### OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- Objective to prevent or mitigate obesity

### MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school snacks

### FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 1 times per week during the school year

### TARGETING:

Intended to be universal

### HOW MANY STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOOL FOOD IN 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	23,220	–	–
Primary school	203,183	–	–
Secondary school	97,953*	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>324,356</b>	–	–

\*This is inclusive of some vocational school students.

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Dairy products	Dairy milk	Fruit juice
Fruits	Yogurt drink	

\* fortified

### FOOD SOURCES:

**90% Purchased (domestic)** 0% In-kind (domestic)  
**10% Purchased (foreign)** 0% In-kind (foreign)

If blank, no response was provided.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

In the 2020/2021 school year, this program reached 843 schools. Some leftover products from school gardens are made into jams, dried fruit, and vegetable preserves.