



## **Child Nutrition Programs**

Several programs and activities of the federal government provide nutrition assistance to school-age children. Under the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and the Special Milk Program, the government provides commodities and cash payments to reimburse participating schools and institutions for at least part of the cost of each meal served. Reimbursement rates vary by program, meal type, and participant's household income. Schools in the school breakfast and lunch programs—the two largest programs—receive relatively small subsidies for meals served to students from households with income above 185 percent of the federal poverty level and larger subsidies for meals served to students from households with income below that level.

Federal child nutrition programs are funded mostly out of mandatory spending, with a small discretionary component. Annual appropriations for child nutrition programs generally cover the cost of providing benefits to all eligible applicants. However, CBO's baseline is constructed under the assumption that in the event of a shortfall, the Department of Agriculture would request an additional appropriation.

## Child Nutrition Programs

	By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars											2023- 2027	2023- 2032
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032		
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>													
<b>Budget Authority</b>	38,642	28,524	30,060	31,882	33,430	34,983	36,577	38,236	39,966	41,774	43,669	<b>158,879</b>	<b>359,101</b>
<b>Estimated Outlays</b>	35,925	30,227	29,798	31,571	33,165	34,719	36,304	37,953	39,670	41,463	43,346	<b>159,480</b>	<b>358,216</b>
<b>Components of the Child Nutrition Programs</b>													
National School Lunch Program													
Budget Authority	4,444	15,488	16,410	17,225	17,995	18,762	19,547	20,357	21,198	22,073	22,984	<b>85,880</b>	<b>192,039</b>
Estimated Outlays	4,128	16,423	16,265	17,055	17,851	18,619	19,400	20,205	21,040	21,907	22,813	<b>86,213</b>	<b>191,578</b>
School Breakfast Program													
Budget Authority	1,519	5,641	6,026	6,376	6,714	7,057	7,412	7,783	8,172	8,580	9,008	<b>31,814</b>	<b>72,769</b>
Estimated Outlays	1,411	5,981	5,973	6,313	6,660	7,003	7,356	7,725	8,111	8,516	8,941	<b>31,930</b>	<b>72,579</b>
Child and Adult Care Food Program													
Budget Authority	3,922	4,275	4,575	4,851	5,123	5,403	5,696	6,003	6,329	6,673	7,037	<b>24,227</b>	<b>55,965</b>
Estimated Outlays	3,643	4,533	4,535	4,803	5,082	5,362	5,653	5,958	6,282	6,623	6,985	<b>24,315</b>	<b>55,816</b>
Commodity Procurement													
Budget Authority	386	1,701	1,920	2,039	2,151	2,263	2,376	2,494	2,616	2,744	2,876	<b>10,074</b>	<b>23,180</b>
Estimated Outlays	359	1,804	1,903	2,019	2,134	2,246	2,358	2,475	2,596	2,723	2,855	<b>10,106</b>	<b>23,113</b>
Summer Food Service Program													
Budget Authority	27,731	950	666	690	713	735	758	781	805	829	855	<b>3,754</b>	<b>7,782</b>
Estimated Outlays	25,760	1,007	660	683	707	729	752	775	799	823	849	<b>3,786</b>	<b>7,784</b>
State Administrative Expenses													
Budget Authority	234	163	148	381	405	427	448	468	490	512	536	<b>1,524</b>	<b>3,978</b>
Estimated Outlays	217	173	147	377	402	424	445	465	486	508	532	<b>1,523</b>	<b>3,959</b>
Other Spending <sup>a</sup>													
Budget Authority	406	306	315	320	329	336	340	350	356	363	373	<b>1,606</b>	<b>3,388</b>
Estimated Outlays	406	306	315	320	329	336	340	350	356	363	373	<b>1,606</b>	<b>3,388</b>

**Memorandum:**

Most reimbursement rates are tied to the consumer price index for food away from home, which is projected to increase as follows:

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
Second quarter to second quarter change (percent)	106.9	105.2	104.0	103.5	103.3	103.2	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.1

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

- a. "Other Spending" includes the Special Milk Program, the Food Service Management Institute, Team Nutrition, coordinated review, computer support and processing, child nutrition grants for the Northern Marianas and American Samoa, and other activities. It also includes discretionary projects funded in annual appropriation acts.