

*Top 10 Most Acceptable Commodities
National School Lunch Program (NSLP)*



PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES THAT RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			47		
NSLP	MEATS	Turkey Roast		41	87%
		Beef 36 Frz Ground		40	85%
		Chicken Diced		37	79%
		Chicken Breaded		33	70%
		Ham Cooked Boneless		19	40%
		Turkey Hams		18	38%
		Beef Patties All Beef		15	32%
		Chicken Cut-Up		15	32%
		Beef Roasts Select/Choice		13	28%
		Tuna Chunk Lite/Water		12	26%
	MEAT ALTERNATES	Cheese Process Sliced		42	89%
		Peanut Butter Smooth		31	66%
		Cheese Mozz. Shred Lite		24	51%
		Cheese Process		20	43%
		Eggs Frozen		19	40%

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NSLP	MEAT ALTERNATES	Cheese Mozzarella Frz		18	38%
		Beans Vegetarian		16	34%
		Cheese Cheddar Reduced-Fat		13	28%
		Beans Pinto		11	23%
		Cheese Cheddar Regular		11	23%
	FRUITS	Applesauce		40	85%
		Pineapple Tidbits		32	68%
		Mixed Fruit		30	64%
		Peaches Cling Slices		24	51%
		Peach Cups Frz		23	49%
		Pears Cnd Slices		20	43%
		Pears Cnd Diced		16	34%
		Pears Cnd Halves		16	34%
		Strawberries Sliced Frz		15	32%
		Peaches Free Slices		9	19%
	VEGETABLES	Potatoes Round		37	79%
		Potato Wedges		36	77%
		Potatoes Oven Fry		36	77%
		Beans Green Cnd		32	68%

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NSLP	VEGETABLES	Spaghetti Sauce Meatless		27	57%
		Salsa Canned		27	57%
		Tomato Sauce		21	45%
		Corn Frz		21	45%
		Corn Whole Kernel Vac-pack		17	36%
		Corn Whole Kernel Liq-pack		16	34%
	GRAINS/BREADS	Spaghetti		23	49%
		Macaroni Elbow		22	47%
		Flour All Purpose		21	45%
		Rotini		18	38%
		Flour Bread		17	36%
		Oats Rolled		12	26%
		Cornmeal Degermed		9	19%
		Rice Milled		8	17%
		Flour Wheat		7	15%
		Flour/Bakery Mix		6	13%
	OTHERS	Oil Vegetable		31	66%
		Shortening Vegetable		14	30%

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NSLP	OTHERS	Milk NFD Instant		13	28%
		Shortening Liquid		12	26%
		Salad Dressing Reg		6	13%
		Salad Dressing Reduced-Cal		3	6%

Top 10 Least Acceptable Commodities
NSLP

PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES THAT RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			47		
NSLP	MEATS	Salmon Pink		16	34%
		Chicken Cut-Up		14	30%
		Tuna Chunk Lite w/Water		11	23%
		Chicken Canned		9	19%
		Turkey		9	19%
		Salmon Nuggets Minced		8	17%
		Ham Cooked Boneless		6	13%
		Pork Cnd w/Natural Juices		5	11%
		Pork Sausage Patties		5	11%
		MEAT ALTERNATES	Egg Mix		9
	Eggs Frozen			8	17%
	Beans Garbanzo			6	13%
	Beans Refried			6	13%
	Cheese Mozz. Shred Lite			6	13%
	Beans Pinto			5	11%
	Walnut Pieces			5	11%
	Beans Blackeye			4	9%
	Beans Vegetarian			4	9%
	Cheese Cheddar Reduced-Fat			4	9%

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NSLP	MEAT ALTERNATES	Beans Vegetarian		4	9%
	FRUITS	Apricots		21	45%
		Raisins		10	21%
		Apple Fresh		7	15%
		Oranges Fresh		7	15%
		Apple Slices		6	13%
		Blueberries Frz		6	13%
		Cherries Frz		6	13%
		Peaches Frz Slices		6	13%
		Cherries IQF		5	11%
		Peach Cups Frz		5	11%
	VEGETABLES	Potato Flakes Dehy		16	34%
		Sweet Potatoes		10	21%
		Carrots Cnd		6	13%
		Peas		6	13%
		Potatoes Fresh		6	13%
		Tomato Paste		6	13%
		Carrots Pre-Cut		5	11%

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NSLP	VEGETABLES	Salsa Canned		5	11%
		Beans Green Cnd		3	6%
		Beans Green Frz		3	6%
	GRAINS/BREADS	Rice Milled		6	13%
		Flour All Purpose		4	9%
		Flour/Bakery Mix		4	9%
		Flour Wheat		3	6%
		Macaroni		3	6%
		Oats Rolled		3	6%
		Spaghetti		3	6%
		Cornmeal Degermed		2	4%
		Grits Corn		2	4%
		Rice Brown		2	4%
	OTHERS	Milk NFD Instant		10	21%
		Shortening Liquid		4	9%
		Oil Vegetable		1	2%
		Salad Dressing Reduce-Cal		1	2%
		Shortening Veg.		1	2%

New Products Requested
NSLP

PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES THAT RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			47		
NSLP	MEATS	*Deli Meats		10	21%
		*Chicken Fajitas		6	13%
		Fish Sticks/ Nuggets		6	13%
		Chicken Nuggets		5	11%
		*Ham		4	9%
		Chicken Breast Fillet		4	9%
		Chicken Soup		4	9%
		Chicken Fingers, Tenders, Strips		4	9%
		Unbreaded Chicken Breast		3	6%
		Fish Patties		3	6%
		Hot Dogs		3	6%
		*Turkey Breast		3	6%
		Chicken Patties		3	6%
		**Beef NJ		3	6%
		Charbroiled Hamburger Patties		2	4%
		Pork Sausages 1oz./smaller		2	4%
		Boneless, Skinless Chicken Breast		2	4%
		Bacon		2	4%
		Catfish Breaded & Filet		2	4%

* Currently offered to states by USDA

** Currently offered off-shore by USDA

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			47		
NSLP	MEATS	*Beef Roast		1	2%
		Pre-cooked Beef Crumbles		1	2%
		Chicken Processed		1	2%
		Popcorn Chicken		1	2%
		Ham Diced		1	2%
		Little Smokies		1	2%
		*Chicken Diced		1	2%
		Pork Sausages Bulk		1	2%
		Pork Sausage Patties		1	2%
		*Canned Chicken		1	2%
		Pouch-type Packed Tuna		1	2%
		Sausage Patties		1	2%
		**Pork NJ		1	2%
		Veggie Burgers		1	2%
		Turkey Hot Dogs		1	2%
	MEAT ALTERNATES	*Shredded Cheddar Cheese		10	21%

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PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES THAT RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
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NSLP	MEAT ALTERNATES	*Shredded Mozzarella Cheese		4	9%
		Cheese Sauce		3	6%
		Egg Patties		2	2%
		Mozzarella Sticks		2	2%
		*Sliced Mozzarella Cheese		2	4%
		**Walnuts		1	2%
		Shred Colby/Mont Jack Cheese		1	2%
		Cheese Sandwiches		1	2%
		PB&J Sandwiches		1	2%
		Sliced Almonds		1	2%
		Canned Nacho Cheese		1	2%
		Dehy Refried Beans		1	2%
		*Peanut Butter		1	2%
		Eggs Hard Boiled		1	2%
		Chili		1	2%
		Vegetable Lasagna		1	2%
			FRUITS	Frozen Strawberry Cups	
	Frozen Pear Cups			2	4%

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**Offered to states when available as bonus.

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PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES THAT RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			47		
NSLP	FRUITS	*Peach Cups		2	4%
		Pear Cups		2	4%
		Applesauce Cups		2	4%
		*Fresh Fruit		1	2%
		Cherry Pie Filling		1	2%
		*Sliced Strawberries		1	2%
		Juice Cups		1	2%
		VEGETABLES	Frozen Broccoli		2
	*Mixed Vegetables			2	4%
	*Tomato Sauce			1	2%
	Frozen Baked Potatoes			1	2%
	Fry or Fajita Vegetables			1	2%
	Canned Vegetables for Stew			1	2%
	Crushed Tomatoes			1	2%
	Fresh Romaine Lettuce			1	2%
	Broccoli Spears			1	2%
	GRAINS/BREADS	*Rice, Parboiled		6	13%
Bulk Cereal			4	9%	

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NSLP	GRAINS/BREADS	Soft Taco Shells		2	4%
		Flat Noodles		1	2%
		Cheese Breadsticks		1	2%
		Different Shaped Pasta		1	2%
		French Toast Sticks		1	2%
		Pancakes		1	2%
		Waffles		1	2%
		Cereal Flavored Oatmeal		1	2%
	OTHERS	Trail Mix w/ M&Ms		7	15%
		Butter		6	13%
		Pudding		4	9%
		Burritos		3	6%
		Cheese Pizza		3	6%
		Corn Dogs		3	6%
		Spices		2	4%
		French Fries		2	4%
		Margarine		2	4%
		Yogurt		2	4%
		Chicken Broth		2	4%

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PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES THAT RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
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NSLP	OTHERS	*Dry Milk		1	2%
		Sugar White, Powdered, & Brown		1	2%
		Honey		1	2%
		Juice		1	2%
		Lo-cal Mayo		1	2%
		Sun Flower Seeds		1	2%
		Sun Butter		1	2%
		Fat Free Ranch		1	2%

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Comments

MEATS

- Too much fat/grease in chicken cut-up.
- Salmon impossible to fix, kids will not eat. It just goes into the trash.
- I use salmon on the salad bar, but it is very poorly accepted. On days that it is a menu item, we have a terribly low turnout.
- There have been numerous complaints concerning bones and gristle in the diced chicken.
- Students know when I substitute turkey hams for real ham.
- Our students loved the breaded chicken, if we could have more please.
- Kids really like the breaded chicken pieces. More of this item and less of the raw unbreaded chicken would be appreciated.
- Turkey roasts were really nice, but very salty.
- The canned chicken---awful----too much oil.
- Need more breaded cooked chicken, need cubed cheese - sliced cheese does not freeze well.
- Could always use more ground beef. Appreciate the commodity program.
- More fajita and diced chicken available.
- The breaded chicken is excellent. Please offer more.

MEAT ALTERNATES

- Bulk cheese hard to shred.
- A lot of children have allergic reactions to nuts.
- Current shredded mozzarella cheese does not melt well, would like to see a quality shredded mozzarella cheese.
- Would like to see peanut butter cans larger around the top.

FRUITS

- Prefer cherries canned.
- Always receive raisins in excess.
- The fresh produce is very nice and would like to see more frozen strawberries, blueberries, and cherries.
- Apricots have skin on, and kids don't like them.
- Would like to see more fresh produce.
- Our students love fruit of any kind, but seem to prefer frozen fruit the best.
- It would be useful to get cherries that were already thickened. That is how we use most of them anyway.
- Dried fruits do not appeal to children.
- We are excited about trying out the strawberry cups (frozen) A381.
- The frozen apricots turned brown quickly when they were opened. Canned apricots are best.
- The pineapple products being offered are excellent - please offer more.
- Offer fresh fruits once a month.
- Boxes of cherries leak. Change packaging.
- More frozen fruit - marion berries.

VEGETABLES

- Do not want beans, green, frozen; not usable.
- Beans, green, frozen turn brown/mushy or sticky when cooked.
- Instant potatoes too sticky---children will not eat.
- Spaghetti sauce is very thin.
- The frozen carrots are not acceptable.
- Would like more frozen vegetables.
- Better quality salsa and spaghetti sauce.
- Better dehydrated potato product, no flakes.

GRAINS/BREADS

- Bread made with all USDA bread flour does not rise evenly.
- The macaroni and cheese was excellent---would like to see it offered again.
- Offer more shapes of pastas (shells, wheels, etc.).

OTHERS

- Children do not like prune puree, salmon, turkey ground, pork nj, apricots, chicken cut-up, sweet potatoes, or peas.
- Taste/flavor/texture of prune puree, pork nj, beans green frozen, and peas are not acceptable.
- Strawberries IQF, salmon, and chicken cut-up pack sizes are too large.
- The trail mix is excellent quality, but the students are getting tired of it. They also pick out the date nuggets.
- On the most part the schools responding indicated that the USDA offered an excess of the following: diced tomatoes, trail mix, ham-water added, sliced apples and pork ham roasts.

PACKAGING/DELIVERY

- Some items need improvement on package quality.
- We are unable to get the fresh fruits and vegetables delivered in time to assure freshness.
- It is difficult for SNP personnel to distinguish between commodities in commercial packaging and purchased.
- Include the commodity code on cases and individual units.

AVAILABILITY/NEW PRODUCTS

- Would like to see more “ready to serve” items for the smaller counties who cannot utilize processing.
- More products prepared for meals (fast food, quick to fix) for teenagers (13-18).
- Schools would like to be informed of new products USDA be offering.
- More raw products.

- The more high quality precooked or baked items we can get the better.
- We could really use some more canned products.
- Would like to have more frozen fruits and vegetables, and ground beef.
- The respondents would like to see more fruits and vegetables offered of all kinds and more of ground beef, and chicken.
- Would like more fruits and vegetables.
- School districts want more convenience items. Requests were received for more cooked meat items, pre-cut meat items, individual servings of fruit, frozen vegetables, shredded and cubed cheese, butter, margarine, salsa, catsup, and more pasta shapes.
- Would like more of chicken fajita.
- I would like to continue to see the deli turkey and also more deli hams.

NUTRITON

- Use less salt in processed products.
- Higher fiber content in commodity foods purchased.
- Low fat content in processed foods.

CAP REPORTS

- We have no way to not give rating on items we have not used. Perhaps a box with “none received” could be added.
- I would like to have the choice of “too expensive” included in this survey.
- You might get a better idea of what schools want if you limited it to the top 5 most acceptable commodities.
- On the Least Acceptable commodities the problem is the kids do not like them and it takes forever to use them up.
- Butter was listed in the new products requested since schools have been unable to get commodity butter for quite a while.

APPRECIATIONS

- We enjoy the foods you send so much. They are very high in quality.
- All fruit and vegetables very good, we use everything we receive. We appreciate all of it.
- So far we like everything you send us.
- You are doing a great job. We are lucky to have this service.
- The commodities really help keep our program running efficiently.
- We're happy with everything we receive and very grateful. Thank you.
- Commodities help us keep the cost of lunches down.
- All commodities very useful - helps keep program running successfully.
- Once in a while we get some processed foods that aren't that great (ham with too much gristle) but for the most part the products are really good.
- We really appreciate the carrier responding to our request for an earlier delivery, saved us lots of overtime.
- Satisfied with available products.
- We appreciate commodities. Most of the commodities are highly acceptable.
- The deli turkey especially smoked was well received.