

A New Taste for a Healthier School Day

Eighty percent of American voters favor national standards that would limit calories, fat and sodium in snack and à la carte foods sold in U.S. schools and encourage the consumption of fruits, vegetables, and low-fat dairy items.

<http://www.rwjf.org/en/research-publications/find-rwjf-research/2012/03/public-support-for-competitive-food-standards.html>

A recent Harvard study found that since implementation of the meal pattern changes student fruit selection increased by 23.0%, vegetable consumption increased by 16.2% and entrée consumption increased 15.6%.

[http://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797\(13\)00635-1/abstract](http://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797(13)00635-1/abstract)

Thirty nine states already had some smart snack standards in place. Schools have had a full year to implement these changes.

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/nutrition/pdf/compfoodsbooklet.pdf>

Forty-four percent of schools are participating in farm to school programs, leading to \$385 million in local purchases.

USDA Farm to School Census of the 2011-2012 School Year

School Breakfast Participation has increased 28% over the last 7 years. Students who eat school breakfast have been shown to achieve higher test scores and miss fewer days of school.

- *FNS administrative data shows that average daily participation increased 10,600,000 in FY 2008 to 13,550,000 in FY 2014.*

- *Students who eat school breakfast achieve 17.5 percent higher math test scores and miss 1.5 less days of school:*

<http://www.nokidhungry.org/pdfs/American%20School%20Board%20Journal%20Article%202013.pdf>

Creating a Healthier Next Generation

HHFKA led to an additional \$450 million in revenue for schools nationwide.

FNS administrative data and analysis indicates that since the first year of implementing updated meal patterns schools saw a net cumulative increase in revenue from school meals of \$450 million nationwide.

Ninety-three percent of schools are successfully meeting the updated nutrition standards.

This is from data collected from States on the number of school food authorities that have submitted documentation and been certified.

Breakfast Participation has increased by 680,000 students since the updated standards took effect.

FNS administrative data shows that the increase in average daily participation in the school breakfast program in FY 2012 and FY 2014 is 686,000.

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Since 2009, USDA has provided over \$185 million to improve kitchen equipment in schools.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided \$100 million to improve kitchen equipment. Agriculture Appropriations for Fiscal 2010 provided \$25 million; and in FY 2013 \$11 million was appropriated; in 2014 \$25 million was appropriated; and in 2015 \$25 million was appropriated for kitchen equipment.