

SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021

- Swedish school meals (*Svenska skolmåltider*)
- School milk scheme

Lead Agency: National Agency for Education,
National Food Agency

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

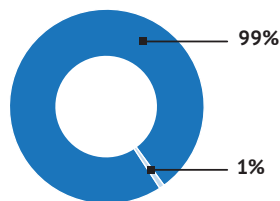
Total: USD 1,513,012,348

- Government: USD 1,503,326,795*
- International donors**: USD 9,685,553
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0

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

*The school meal program is financed by municipalities (local government). Funding for the school milk scheme comes partly from the European Union.

**International donations by United Nations agencies or non-governmental organizations often represent funding from multiple donors.



INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools in Sweden have electricity, clean and piped water, flush toilets, and dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias. School lunches are prepared on-site (in school kitchens), as well as off-site in centralized (public) kitchens and off-site in private facilities.

SPECIAL NOTES

School enrollment numbers from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) were used to complete this report. Sweden participates in the European Union school fruit, vegetables, and milk scheme, although detailed information on this program is not included in 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: None

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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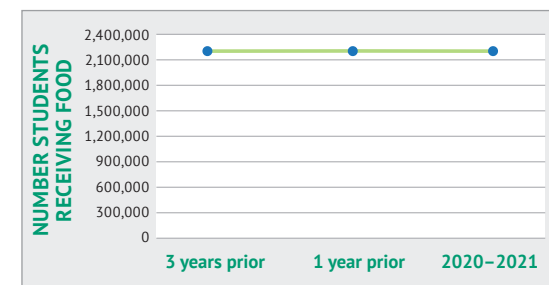
KINGDOM OF Sweden



SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

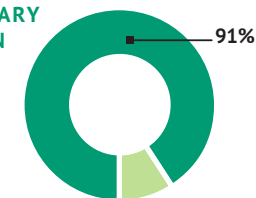
School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	517,405	517,405	517,405
Primary school	1,234,829	1,234,829	1,234,829
Secondary school	581,708	581,708	425,648
Total	2,333,942	2,333,942	2,177,882



COVERAGE: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 1,816,537

Receiving school food: 1,660,477



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:

Skimmed milk, Salt

Micronutrients:

Vitamin D, Iodine

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Efforts to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity through the school meals program include nutritional requirements for the school meals, food and nutrition education, health education, and physical education.

STUDIES CONDUCTED

Not specified

RESEARCH NEEDED

Research on the long-term socio-economic benefits of school meals, such as their effect on society and sustainability.

AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Jobs created by school feeding programs*

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

Both small and medium/large-scale farmers provide food for the school meals program, and private sector companies are contracted to provide food trading, processing, transport, and catering services for the program. Sweden is characterized by municipal self-government, such that each municipality (local government) is responsible for its own food and services procurement. This has produced variation in terms of whether small-scale companies and farmers are able to complete and/or are given preferential treatment in contracts for the school meals program.

CONTACTS: SWEDEN

Agency: Swedish Food Agency
Website: www.livsmedelverket.se

SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Among the successes related to school feeding in Sweden, the National Food Agency has generated holistic national guidelines that cover six key areas, including nutrition, food safety, sustainability, taste, a pleasant experience, and integration into the school.

EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Schools in Sweden were open for in-person learning throughout the 2020–2021 school year. However, the COVID-19 pandemic did cause a temporary change in the venue (location) of distributing or consuming food, such as having fewer children eat together at the same time, and a temporary change in the feeding modality, such as switching from in-school meals to making meals available to be picked up and eaten at home. Working through the COVID-19 crisis has improved the level of crisis preparedness in the school meals program and enhanced the level of collaboration between school staff and those responsible for the school meals program.

SWEDISH SCHOOL MEALS SVENSKA SKOLMÅLTIDER

Lead implementer(s): The program is managed by the municipal governments.

OBJECTIVES:

- To meet educational goals
- To provide a social safety net
- To meet nutritional and/or health goals
- To prevent or mitigate obesity
- To meet agricultural goals

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week throughout the year

TARGETING:

Universal (excluding the oldest grades)

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	517,405	–	–
Primary school	1,234,829	–	–
Secondary school	425,648*	–	–
Total	2,177,882	–	–

*The number for secondary schools is inclusive of 105,352 students of vocational/trade schools.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

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

* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Swedish school meals program began in 1946 when the government first provided state subsidies to the municipalities that introduced free school meals. School lunches are free for all students, while the price for snacks and breakfast varies. With fully decentralized decision-making, local governments manage the school meals program, but school lunches are regulated by the national education act.



SCHOOL MILK SCHEME

Lead implementer(s): The Swedish Board of Agriculture

OBJECTIVES:

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

MODALITIES OF PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FOOD:

- In-school meals

FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 times per week during the school year

TARGETING:

Municipalities voluntarily seek support for milk that is provided in schools.

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	–	–	–
Primary school	–	–	–
Secondary school	–	–	–
Total	1,742,255	–	–

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Dairy milk*
* fortified

FOOD SOURCES:

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

If blank, no response was provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Sweden's school milk scheme began in 1977. The program provides municipalities with financial assistance to provide milk in schools. Today, it is part of the EU school fruit, vegetables and milk scheme. (Sweden only uses the EU scheme for school milk promotion).