

## SCHOOL MEAL/FEEDING PROGRAM(S)

School year: 2020–2021

- National School Feeding Program (*Školní stravování*)

Lead Agency: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports;  
Ministry of Health

## 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

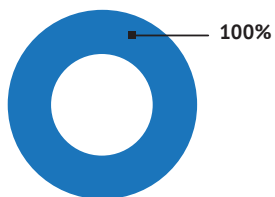
## BUDGET

Total: USD 697,322,100

- Government: USD 697,322,100
- International donors\*: USD 0
- Private sector: USD 0
- Other donors: USD 0

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

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



## INFRASTRUCTURE

All schools in the Czech Republic have electricity, clean and piped water, and flush toilets. Most schools have dedicated eating spaces/cafeterias and kitchens. The school kitchens are equipped with storage facilities, refrigeration, and electric stoves.

## SPECIAL NOTES

This report does not provide a detailed description of the EU school fruit, vegetables and milk scheme, which is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and has been operational in the Czech Republic (under various names) since 1999.

## 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 containing sweeteners (other than sugar-free chewing gum) or caffeine (other than tea), foods with trans fatty acids, or foods that are stimulants or are intended for athletes or persons performing physical activity.

## 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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GCNF is a non-political, non-profit entity. Funding for the 2019 and 2021 surveys is provided, in part, by the United States Department of Agriculture; agreement number FX18TA-10960G002.

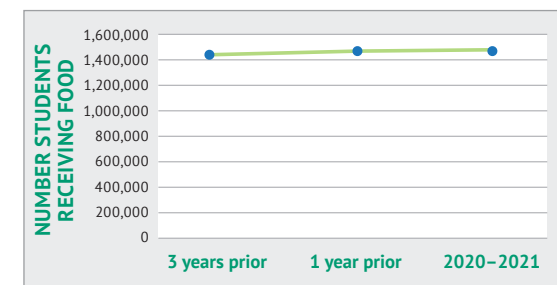
# Czech Republic



## SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

### CHILDREN RECEIVING FOOD, 2020–2021

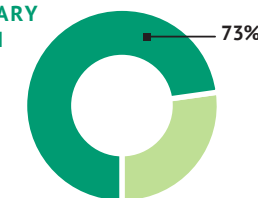
School level	Total	# Enrolled	# Receiving food
Pre-school	448,960	357,598	357,545
Primary school	1,018,470	962,348	837,870
Secondary school	471,996	421,203	248,662
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,939,426</b>	<b>1,741,149</b>	<b>1,444,077</b>



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

Total number primary and secondary school-age children: 1,490,466

Receiving school food: 1,086,532



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:

Not applicable

### Micronutrients:

Not applicable

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Several education programs are provided to students to prevent or mitigate overweight/obesity, including food and nutrition education, health education, and physical education. Foods produced in school gardens are also consumed by the students, in addition to being sold.

## STUDIES CONDUCTED

None reported

## RESEARCH NEEDED

Not specified

## AGRICULTURE, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Jobs created by school feeding programs\*

**25,000** 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

Farmers of all sizes provide foods for the National School Feeding Program, including fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, and dairy. The private sector provides food trading, processing, and transport services, as well as utensils. Over 75% of the cooks in the program are women.

## CONTACTS: CZECH REPUBLIC

**Agency:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

**Website:** <https://www.msmt.cz/vzdelavani/skolni-stravovani?lang=1>

## SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Among the successes of school feeding in the Czech Republic, the school canteens have raised awareness of the importance of children's healthy eating both at school and at home. The program operated in 100% of both public and private schools in the 2020–2021 school year, and funding was considered adequate to meet the program's targets. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the transition from in-school meals to take-away meals has been an example of the program's flexibility.

## EMERGENCIES/COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During the 2020–2021 school year, schools in the Czech Republic were not entirely open for in-person instruction. Rather, all schools were closed but operating remotely for several months, and some schools were open while others continued to provide only remote instruction for several additional months. As a result of the pandemic, the program was temporarily interrupted, the number of students receiving food through the program decreased, and there was a temporary change in the feeding modality. Specifically, meals/snacks were prepared at school, but were made available to be picked up by students or parents and eaten at home ("take-away meals").

## NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM

### ŠKOLNÍ STRAVOVÁNÍ

**Lead implementer(s):** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports;  
Ministry of Health

#### 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
- In-school snacks
- Take-home rations

#### FREQUENCY AND DURATION:

- 5 days per week during the school year

#### TARGETING:

Based on grade level: Children in kindergarten, preparatory classes of primary schools, preparatory classes of special primary schools, and pupils in primary and secondary schools are guaranteed to receive food in school. Meals can be also be provided to adult secondary school students and students of higher vocational schools.

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

School level	# Students	% Girls	% Boys
Pre-school	357,545	–	–
Primary school	837,870	–	–
Secondary school	248,662	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,444,077</b>	–	–

#### FOOD AND BEVERAGE ITEMS:

Roots, tubers	Fish	Sugar
Legumes, pulses, nuts	Green, leafy vegetables	Dairy milk
Dairy products	Other vegetables	Fruit juice
Meat	Fruits	Tea
Poultry	Oil	Water

\* *fortified*



#### FOOD SOURCES:

**100% Purchased (domestic)** 0% In-kind (domestic)  
0% Purchased (foreign) 0% In-kind (foreign)

*If blank, no response was provided.*

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The National School Feeding Program began in the 1950s and operated in 100% of schools in the 2020–2021 school year. Students' families or guardians pay only the price of the food, and the remaining costs (including wages and overhead costs) are paid from the state budget and two additional programs, "Podpora školního stravování žáků základních škol na rok 2020" and "Obědy do škol". Take-home rations are not typically included in the National School Feeding Program but were provided in 2020–2021 when schools were closed due to national COVID-19 restrictions.