

Social Determinants of Health: Healthy School Meals for All

Summary Evidence Table

This table outlines information from the studies included in the Community Guide systematic review of Healthy School Meals for All. It details study quality, population and intervention characteristics, and study outcomes considered in this review. Complete references for each study can be found in the Included Studies section of the review summary.

Abbreviations Used in This Document:

- Study design:
 - RCT: randomized controlled trial
- Measurement and analysis terms:
 - CI: confidence interval
 - NR: not reported
 - NS: not significant
 - Pct pts: percentage points
 - SD: standard deviation
- Other terms
 - CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - CEP: Community Eligibility Provision
 - FPL: federal poverty level
 - FRPM: free and reduced-price meals
 - HSMA: Healthy School Meals for All
 - K: kindergarten
 - ISP: identified student percentage
 - LEA: lead education agency
 - NOS: Newcastle-Ottawa Scale
 - NSLP: National School Lunch Program
 - SBP: School Breakfast Program
 - SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
 - SY: school year
 - TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
 - US: United States
 - USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

Outcomes Reported in This Review:

- Meal participation (breakfast and lunch)
- School attendance (days present in schools, days absent in school)
- Academic performance (math, reading, and science test scores)
- Dietary intake and meal patterns (breakfast skipping, breakfast dietary intake, full-day dietary intake)
- Food security (household food security status)

Notes:

- **Intervention:** The intervention offers free, nutritious meals (i.e., breakfast, lunch, or both) to all students in a qualifying school, regardless of household income.
- **Comparison:** All included studies compared HSMA to the traditional model of the USDA’s NSLP and SBP which uses household income-based requirements to determine eligibility for FRPM.
- **Suitability of design:** Includes three categories: greatest, moderate, or least suitable design. [Read more](#)
- **Risk of bias assessment:** Performed using the NOS adapted by Cohen et al. 2021. Studies were assessed to have low risk of bias, high risk of bias, or very high risk of bias. Studies with high or very high risk of bias were excluded from the review.
- **Sample population:** Reported as number of schools evaluated, number of students in study schools, and/or number of student-year observations.
- **Rounding:** Final effect estimates greater than zero are rounded to the nearest tenth; estimates less than zero are rounded to the nearest hundredth.

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results
<p>Author, Year Andreyeva et al. 2021</p> <p>Location US: 41 states</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS=9 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation School attendance Academic performance Food security</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-72 months</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary School grades: K to 5 School type: Public and private</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2010-2016 SYs</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban, and rural; 34.4% suburban and 13.4% rural</p> <p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast and lunch</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Schools that were part of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study and enrolled in kindergarten during the 2010-2011 SY</p> <p>Comparison: Schools that were not participating in CEP for the school year being analyzed</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 700 Students in study schools: 2,500 Student-year observations: 12,750</p> <p>Demographics Age: NR Sex: 48.8% females; 51.2% males Race/Ethnicity: 24.5% White 23.4% Black; 38.2% Hispanic Households with lower incomes: 61.5% household income below 200% of FPL</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Percentage of students participating in school lunch program Results: Relative change: +9.3%; p<.01</p> <p>School attendance Outcome measure: Percentage of students attending school on an average day Results: Absolute difference: +0.24 pct pts; p<.01</p> <p>Academic performance Outcome measure: Math, reading, and science test scores Results: No change in math, reading, or science test scores</p> <p>Food security Outcome measure: Percentage of students living in households that experienced food security, low food security, and very low food security Results: Relative change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food security: -1.3% (CI: -3.5, 0.9) • Low food security: +1.1% (CI: -0.8, 3.1) • Very low food security: +0.1% (CI: -1.3, 1.4) </p>
<p>Author, Year Bartfeld et al. 2019</p> <p>Location US: Wisconsin</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS=9 points)</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary School grades: 1-5 for school attendance; 3-5 for academic performance School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2009-2014 SYs</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban, and rural</p> <p>Provision for HSMA Not specified</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Public schools in Wisconsin except for schools in the Milwaukee Public School District.</p> <p>Comparison: Schools that implemented the SBP but not HSMA from 2008-2009 SY through 2013-2014 SY.</p> <p>Total sample population <i>School attendance</i> Schools evaluated: 1,007 Students in study schools: 481,799 Student-year observations: 1,217,396</p> <p><i>Academic performance</i> Schools evaluated: 883</p>	<p>School attendance <i>Days present</i> Outcome measure: Average percentage of days students were present Results: Absolute difference: +.24 pct pts or +43% of a day; p<.05</p> <p><i>Days absent</i> Outcome measure: Percentage of students with low attendance (i.e., absent more than 5% of the school year or more than 10 days) Results: Absolute difference: -3.5 pct pts; p<.01</p> <p>Academic performance Outcome measure: Math and reading test scores</p>

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results									
<p>Outcomes reported School attendance Academic performance</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-60 months</p>	<p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast</p>	<p>Students in study schools: 248,328 Student-year observations: 463,558</p> <p>Demographics Age: NR Sex: 48.6% females; 41.2% males Race/Ethnicity: 78.5% White; 5.3% Black; 3.3% Asian; 1.7% Native American; 9.5% Hispanic Households with lower incomes: 31.7% received SNAP in last 3 years</p>	<p>Results: Absolute difference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math: +.03 SD; NS • Reading: +.01 SD; NS 									
<p>Author, Year Bartfeld et al. 2020</p> <p>Location US: Wisconsin</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS=9 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported School attendance</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-24 months</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary School grades: 1-5 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2014-2016 SYs</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban, and rural</p> <p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast and lunch</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation: Intervention: Schools that implemented CEP in 2014-2015 SY or 2015-2016 SY or both, with an ISP of at least 40%.</p> <p>Comparison: Schools that were eligible to implement CEP as of 2014-15 SY but did not. Schools that introduced CEP in the second implementation year were excluded as of that year and contributed only a single year of follow up data.</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 145 Students in study schools: NR Student-year observations: 91,126</p> <p>Demographics: Age: NR Sex: NR Race/Ethnicity: 47.3% Nonwhite persons Households with lower incomes: 68.9% household income below 185% FPL or participation in SNAP</p>	<p>School attendance</p> <p><i>Days present</i> Outcome measure: Average percentage of days students were present Results: Absolute difference: +0.32 pct pts or +58% of a day; NS</p> <p><i>Days absent</i> Outcome measure: Proportion of students with low attendance (i.e., absent more than 5% of the school year or more than 10 days) Results: Absolute difference: -3.5 pct pts; p<0.05</p>									
<p>Author, Year Bernstein et al. 2004</p> <p>Location US: Boise, ID Columbiana, AL Gulfport, MS</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary School grades: 2-6 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2000-2003 SYs</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Districts that were broadly representative of all districts participating in the SBP.</p> <p>Comparison: Schools in the same district randomly assigned to offer the traditional SBP which provides</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Percentage of students participating in school breakfast Results:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1323 1323 1732 1421"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>18.9%</td> <td>19.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>36.3%</td> <td>21.1%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +15.4 pct pts; p<0.01</p>		Intervention	Control	Pre	18.9%	19.1%	Post	36.3%	21.1%
	Intervention	Control										
Pre	18.9%	19.1%										
Post	36.3%	21.1%										

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results																											
<p>Phoenix, AZ Santa Rosa, CA Wichita, KS</p> <p>Study Design Group RCT</p> <p>Suitability of Design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 9 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation School attendance Academic performance Dietary intake and meal patterns</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-36 months</p>	<p>Geographic scale Urban: 4 locations Boise, ID; Santa Rosa, CA; Phoenix, AR; Wichita, KS Mixed urban, suburban, rural: 2 locations Gulfport, MS; Columbiana; AL</p> <p>Provision for HSMA Not specified</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast</p>	<p>free or reduced-price breakfasts to eligible students from households with lower incomes.</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 153 Students in study schools: 79,458 Student-year observations: NR</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: 9.8 years Sex: 48.0% male; 52% female Race/Ethnicity: 64% White; 11% African American; 17% Hispanic Households with lower incomes: 18% <\$20,000/year; 49% eligible for FRPM</p>	<p>Relative change: +74.3%</p> <p>School attendance Outcome measure: Average percentage of days students were present Results:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>93.9%</td> <td>94.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>93.2%</td> <td>92.9%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +0.50 pct pts; NS Relative change: +90% of a day; NS</p> <p>Academic performance Outcome measure: Math and reading achievement reported as normal curve equivalent scores at school level Results:</p> <p><i>Math:</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>53.6</td> <td>53.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>52.4</td> <td>51.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +0.50 pct pts; NS</p> <p><i>Reading:</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>55.1</td> <td>55.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>49.9</td> <td>49.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +0.30 pct pts; NS Relative change: NR</p> <p>Dietary intake and meal patterns Outcome measure: Proportion of students who skipped breakfast Results: No change</p> <p>Outcome measure: Proportion of students who consumed a nutritionally substantive breakfast Results: Intervention: 80% Comparison: 76% Absolute difference: +4.0 pct pts; p<.01</p>		Intervention	Control	Pre	93.9%	94.1%	Post	93.2%	92.9%		Intervention	Control	Pre	53.6	53.3	Post	52.4	51.6		Intervention	Control	Pre	55.1	55.1	Post	49.9	49.6
	Intervention	Control																												
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	Intervention	Control																												
Pre	55.1	55.1																												
Post	49.9	49.6																												

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results
			<p>Outcome measure: Student full-day dietary intake measured using a 24-hour dietary recall Results: Overall no change in students' full-day dietary intake</p>
<p>Author, Year Gordanier et al. 2020</p> <p>Location US: South Carolina</p> <p>Study Design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of Design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 9 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation School attendance Academic performance</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-24 months</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary and middle School grades: 3-8 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2014-2016 SYs</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban and rural; 55.8% urban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Lunch</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Schools that implemented CEP in 2014-2015 SY and/or 2015-2016 SY and had an ISP of at least 40% or belonged to a district in which the ISP was at least 40%.</p> <p>Comparison: Schools that did not implement CEP during the 2014-2015 SY or 2015-2016 SY.</p> <p>Total sample population Schools: 780 Students in study schools: 332,761 Student-year observations: 670,392</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: NR Sex: 48.8% female; 51.2% male Race/Ethnicity: 53.5% White; 35.4% African American; 8.4% Hispanic; 2.1% Asian; 0.6% American Indian/Alaska Native Households with lower incomes: 62.3% received TANF, SNAP, or free or reduced-price lunches</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Average daily percentage of students participating in the school lunch program Results: Absolute difference: +4.9 pct pts; p<0.01 Relative change: +7.7%</p> <p>School attendance Outcome measure: Average number of days student was absent Results: Absolute difference: Elementary school: -23.1% of a day; p<0.05 Middle school: -42.1% of a day; NS</p> <p>Academic performance Outcome measure: Math and reading tests Results: Absolute difference Math/elementary school: +0.06 SD; p<0.01 Math/middle school: +0.01 SD; NS Reading/elementary school: +0.02 SD; NS Reading/middle school: +0.01 SD; NS</p>
<p>Author, Year Leos-Urbel et al. 2013</p> <p>Location US: New York City, NY</p> <p>Study design Single group pre-post</p> <p>Suitability of design Least</p> <p>Risk of bias</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary and middle School grades: 3-8 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2003-2004 SY</p> <p>Geographic scale Urban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation: Intervention: New York City made school breakfast free for all elementary and middle school students regardless of income, replacing traditional breakfast programs funded through SBP</p> <p>Comparison: Same schools before the policy change</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 668 Students in study schools: 552,400 Student-year observations: NR</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Daily uptake as measured by number of meals/ (number of students x school days) Results: Students who previously paid full price for breakfast Absolute difference: Pre: 11 meals per student per year Post: +6 meals per student per year Relative change: +55%</p> <p>Students who previously paid reduced price for breakfast Absolute difference: Pre: 16 meals per student per year</p>

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results																		
<p>Low risk of bias (NOS = 8 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12 months</p>	<p>NYC policy change</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast</p>	<p>Demographics Mean age: NR Sex: NR Race/Ethnicity 17.8% White; 32.3% African American; 35.7% Hispanic; 14.0% Asian Household with lower incomes: 71.3% eligible for free meals; 9.4% eligible for reduced-price meals</p>	<p>Post: +5.5 meals per student per year Relative change: +33%</p> <p>Students who were previously eligible for free breakfast Absolute change: Pre: 37 meals per student per year Post: +6 meals per student per year Relative change: +15%</p>																		
<p>Author, Year Logan et al. 2014</p> <p>Location US: Illinois Kentucky Michigan Ohio New York West Virginia</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 7 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-24 months</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary, middle, high School grades: K-12 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2011-2012 SY 2012-2013 SY</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban and rural; 32.1% urban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast and lunch</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: At least one school in the LEA was participating in CEP in 2011-2012 SY or 2012-2013 SY Comparison: LEAs that did not adopt CEP but were similar to LEAs who did.</p> <p>Total sample population Schools: 7,257 Students in study schools: NR Student-year observations: NR</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: NR; 50.6% elementary; 23.2% middle; 23.4% high school students Sex: NR Race/Ethnicity: 31.9% African American; 7.4% Hispanic Households with lower incomes: 73.2% eligible for FRPM</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Average daily participation Results: Breakfast</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1323 600 1701 682"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>46.2%</td> <td>38.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>52.3%</td> <td>40.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +3.6 pct pts; p<0.01 Relative change: +9.4%</p> <p>Lunch</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1323 795 1701 876"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>72.4%</td> <td>68.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>76.3%</td> <td>68.9%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +3.5 pct pts; p<0.01 Relative difference: +5.2%</p>		Intervention	Control	Pre	46.2%	38.3%	Post	52.3%	40.7%		Intervention	Control	Pre	72.4%	68.5%	Post	76.3%	68.9%
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<p>Author, Year Pokorney et al. 2019</p> <p>Location</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary, middle, high School grades: K-12</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Public schools in Pennsylvania who implemented CEP in 2014-15 SY and made meal</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Mean number of meals served per student per year Results:</p>																		

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results
<p>US: Pennsylvania</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low (NOS = 8 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12 months</p>	<p>School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA Implementation 2014-2015 SY</p> <p>Geographic scale Urban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Lunch</p>	<p>count data publicly available in SY2013-14 and SY2014-15</p> <p>Comparison: Public schools in Pennsylvania who did not implement CEP in 2014-2015 SY and made meal count data publicly available in SY2013-14 and SY2014-15</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 1,762 Students in study schools: NR Student-year observations: NR</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: NR Sex: NR Race/Ethnicity: NR Households with lower incomes: 63.3% eligible FRPM</p>	<p>Absolute difference: +3.6 pct pts Relative change: 8.0%</p>
<p>Author, Year Ribar et al. 2013</p> <p>Location US: Guilford County, NC</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 8 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation School attendance Academic performance</p> <p>Evaluation duration</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary School grades: 1-5 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA Implementation 2008-2009 SY</p> <p>Geographic Scale Urban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA NR</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Schools that changed breakfast program from SBP to free breakfast for all students</p> <p>Comparison: Schools without changes to the SBP, matched to intervention schools.</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 6 Students in study schools: 987 Student-year observations: NR</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: NR Sex: 48.2% female; 51.8% male Race/Ethnicity 55.7% African American; 20.2% Hispanic Households with lower incomes: 76.5% eligible free meals; 8.5% eligible reduced-price meals</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Average number of breakfasts served per year per student Results: Absolute difference: +16.4 pct pts; p<0.05.</p> <p>School Attendance Outcome measure: Average percentage of days students were present Results: Absolute difference: -0.3 pct pts; p>0.05.</p> <p>Academic performance Outcome measure: Proportion of students proficient on math, reading, and science tests Results: Absolute difference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math proficiency: +1.4 pct pts; NS • Math standardized score: +0.045 SD; NS • Reading proficiency: +0.6 pct pts; NS • Reading standardized score: +0.029 SD; NS • Science proficiency: +6.8 pct pts; p<0.05 • Science standardized score: +0.740 SD; NS

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results									
<p>12 months</p> <p>Author, Year Ruffini 2021</p> <p>Location US: Georgia Illinois Kentucky New York Maryland West Virginia</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 9 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation Academic performance</p> <p>Evaluation duration 24-48 months</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary and middle School grades: 3-8 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA Implementation 2012-2017 SY</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban and rural; 15.5% urban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast and lunch</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Districts that had at least one school implementing CEP between 2012-2017 SY Comparison: Districts that did not have at least one school implementing CEP between 2012-2017 SY</p> <p>Total sample population: Schools evaluated: NR Students in study schools: NR Student-Year observations: 18,800-20,000</p> <p>Demographics: Mean age: NR Sex: NR Race/Ethnicity: 22.5% African American; 16.7% Hispanic Households with lower incomes: 58.6% eligible FRPM</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Number of breakfasts or lunches served per student per year Results: Breakfast: Absolute difference: +19.9 breakfasts; p<0.01 Relative change: 37.8%</p> <p>Lunch: Absolute difference: +13.2 lunches; p<0.01 Relative change: 11.8%; p<.01</p> <p>Academic achievement Outcome measure: Math and reading test scores Results Absolute difference Math: +0.00 SD; NS Reading: +0.01 SD; NS</p>									
<p>Author, Year Schneider et al. 2021</p> <p>Location US: Texas</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary, middle, and high School grades: K-12 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2014-2015 SY 2018-2019 SY</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban and rural</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: CEP is available to an individual school, group of schools, or entire district, with an ISP of at least 40%</p> <p>Comparison: Schools without CEP who opted into CEP during the study period</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 2,797 Students in study schools: NR Student-Year observations: 16,103</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Monthly uptake; number of meals served divided by total enrollment Results:</p> <p>Breakfast:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1323 1299 1722 1380"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>53.7%</td> <td>47.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>57.5%</td> <td>46.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +4.6 pct pts; p<0.001 Relative change: +11.0%</p>		Intervention	Control	Pre	53.7%	47.6%	Post	57.5%	46.0%
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Pre	53.7%	47.6%										
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Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results									
<p>Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 9 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-60 months</p>	<p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast and lunch</p>	<p>Demographics Mean age: NR Sex: NR Race/Ethnicity: 15.4% White; 13.2% African American; 64.4% Hispanic; 1.4% Asian; 0.10% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander; 1.2% multi-racial Households with lower incomes: 79.6% eligible FRPM</p>	<p>Lunch:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>74.2%</td> <td>47.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>72.2%</td> <td>68.6%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +4.3 pct pts; p<0.001 Relative change: +7.0%</p>		Intervention	Control	Pre	74.2%	47.6%	Post	72.2%	68.6%
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Pre	74.2%	47.6%										
Post	72.2%	68.6%										
<p>Author, Year Schwartz et al. 2020</p> <p>Location US: New York City, NY</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 8 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation School attendance Academic performance</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-36 months</p>	<p>Setting School level: Middle School grades: 6-8 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2010-2011 SY 2012-2013 SY</p> <p>Geographic Scale Urban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA Provision 2</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Lunch (added to free breakfast, which was already being offered)</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: HSMA expanded in NYC in 2010-2011 SY, and extended to all freestanding middle schools in September 2014; analysis done with schools that ever-implemented HSMA under Provision 2 during 2010-2013 SY</p> <p>Comparison: Schools in NYC not having HSMA at any time during the study period</p> <p>Total sample population Schools: NR Students in study schools: 155,496 Student-Year observations: 318,637</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: NR Sex: 50.5% female; 49.5% male Race/Ethnicity: 12.1% White; 25.8% African American; 42.6% Hispanic; 19.5% Asian Households with lower incomes: 92.4% eligible FRPM</p>	<p>Meal Participation Outcome measure: Number of lunch transactions divided by the number of school days in the year</p> <p>Results: Absolute difference: Poor students: +5.4 pct pts; p<0.01 Non-poor students: +11.0 pct pts; p<0.05</p> <p>School attendance Outcome measure: Attendance rate Results: Absolute difference: -0.04SD; NS</p> <p>Academic performance Outcome measure: Math and reading test scores Results: Absolute difference: Math: +0.04 SD; p<0.01 Reading: +0.03 SD; p<0.01</p>									
<p>Author, Year Tan et al. 2020</p> <p>Location US: Nationwide</p>	<p>Setting School level: Elementary, middle School grades: K – 8; 35.1% early elementary (K-2); 30.6% late</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Schools that adopted CEP during or prior to the year of data collection.</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Percentage of students who ate school meal one or more days a week. Results: Breakfast:</p>									

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results																		
<p>Study design Retrospective cohort</p> <p>Suitability of design Moderate</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk of bias (NOS = 7 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-36 months</p>	<p>elementary (3-5); 34.3% middle (6-8)</p> <p>School type Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2011-2015 SY</p> <p>Geographic Scale Mix of urban, suburban and rural; 43.7% urban, 32.1% suburban, 24.2% rural</p> <p>Provision for HSMA CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period: Breakfast and lunch</p>	<p>Comparison: Similar schools without the option of CEP.</p> <p>Total sample population Schools evaluated: 198 Students in study schools: 2,305 Student-Year observations: NR</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: 9.5 Sex: 52.4% female; 47.6% male Race/Ethnicity: 18.2% White; 25.2% African American; 52.5% Hispanic; 4.2% Other Household with lower incomes: 57.1% receive WIC or SNAP</p>	<p>Absolute difference</p> <p>FRPM eligible: +4.9 pct pts Nearly FRPM eligible: +10.3 pct pts Full price: +34.7 pct pts</p> <p>Lunch:</p> <p>Absolute difference</p> <p>FRPM eligible: +1.2 pct pts Nearly FRPM eligible: +11.2 pct pts Full price: +23.4 pct pts</p>																		
<p>Author, Year Turner et al. 2019</p> <p>Location US: California</p> <p>Study design Pre-post with comparison group</p> <p>Suitability of design Greatest</p> <p>Risk of bias Low risk (NOS = 9 points)</p> <p>Outcomes reported Meal participation</p> <p>Evaluation duration 12-24 months</p>	<p>Setting: School level: Elementary, middle, and high school School grades: K–12 School type: Public</p> <p>Dates for HSMA implementation 2013-2014 SY 2016-2017 SY</p> <p>Geographic scale Mix of urban, suburban and rural; 19.8% rural; 79.2% urban or suburban</p> <p>Provision for HSMA: Provisions 1,2,3, or CEP</p> <p>Free meals offered during evaluation period Breakfast and lunch</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for inclusion in evaluation Intervention: Eligibility for each specific provision was in accordance with the provision's guidelines; Provision 1 available to schools with at least 80% students eligible for FRPM; CEP and Provisions 2 and 3 available to all schools</p> <p>Comparison: Schools without CEP who eventually opted into CEP during the study period</p> <p>Total sample population Schools: 9,930 Students in study schools: 963,410 Student-Year observations: NR</p> <p>Demographics Mean age: NR Sex: NR Race/Ethnicity: 28.9% of schools with ≥75% students identified as Hispanic; 69.5% of schools with <75% students identified as Hispanic</p>	<p>Meal participation Outcome measure: Monthly uptake; total meals served each month divided by total number of students and number of operating days</p> <p>Results:</p> <p>Breakfast:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1323 1015 1732 1096"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>41.1%</td> <td>38.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>44.6%</td> <td>38.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +3.5 pct pts; p<0.001 Relative change: +8.5%</p> <p>Lunch:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1323 1218 1732 1299"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Intervention</th> <th>Control</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pre</td> <td>68.6%</td> <td>67.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Post</td> <td>73.9%</td> <td>67.4%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Absolute difference: +5.8 pct pts; p<0.001 Relative change: +8.5%</p>		Intervention	Control	Pre	41.1%	38.8%	Post	44.6%	38.7%		Intervention	Control	Pre	68.6%	67.9%	Post	73.9%	67.4%
	Intervention	Control																			
Pre	41.1%	38.8%																			
Post	44.6%	38.7%																			
	Intervention	Control																			
Pre	68.6%	67.9%																			
Post	73.9%	67.4%																			

Study	Intervention Characteristics	Population Characteristics	Results
		Households with lower incomes: 41.3% of schools with >75% students eligible for FRPM	