**NYC Office of Food and Nutrition Services**

**Fast Facts**

* Feeds 1.1 million children a day (600K lunches and 250K breakfasts)
* 170 million meals a year
* $550 million budget
* $3.40 per meal total
* Food cost for k-8 regular menu per meal is $1.22, for alternative menu it is $1.12, for veg menu is $1.13
* 62-63% participation in lunches breaks down like this: elementary school is 85% participation, middle schools participation drops to 50-55% and High school is 30-40% participation.
* Now offers [free lunch to all of its students](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/06/nyregion/free-lunch-new-york-city-schools.html) which has resulted in 4.4% increase in participation, or 26,000 more meals served per day to New York City’s hungry children.
* Every summer it serves about seven million more meals to any New Yorker 18 years or younger.
* New York City’s nutrition standards in many instances [exceed USDA standards](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/cardio/cardio-meals-snacks-standards.pdf), [and it has a list of prohibited ingredients](http://www.schoolfoodnyc.org/resources/prohibited.pdf) that includes sweeteners such as high fructose corn syrup, preservatives such as ammonium hydroxide, and flavor enhancers such as MSG.
* OFNS has also begun a baseline audit with [**Good Food Purchasing**](https://goodfoodpurchasing.org/)**,** which evaluates public institutions’ purchasing habits and scores them based on five core values: local economies, health, valued workforce, animal welfare, and environmental sustainability. Schools are ranked and given a toolkit and a strategy to boost compliance.