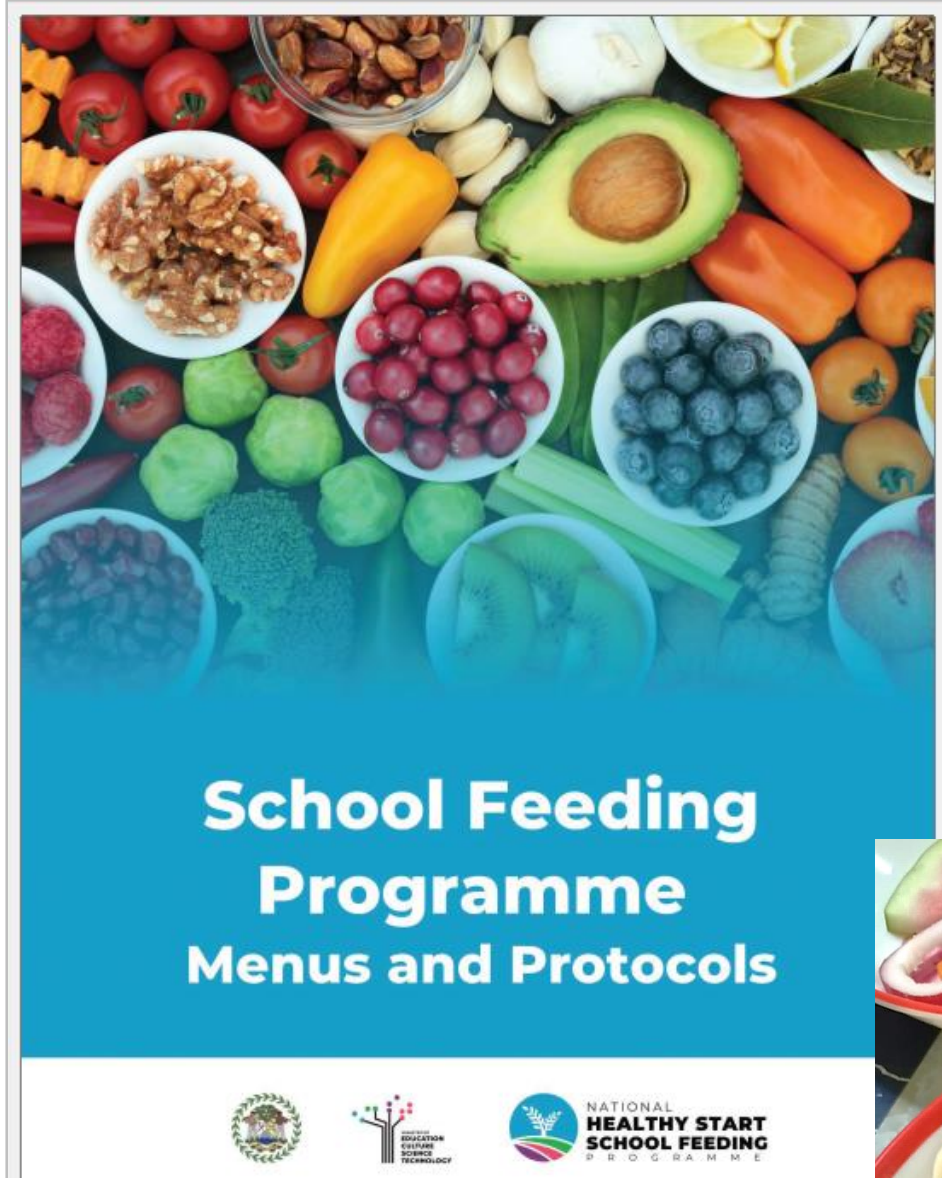


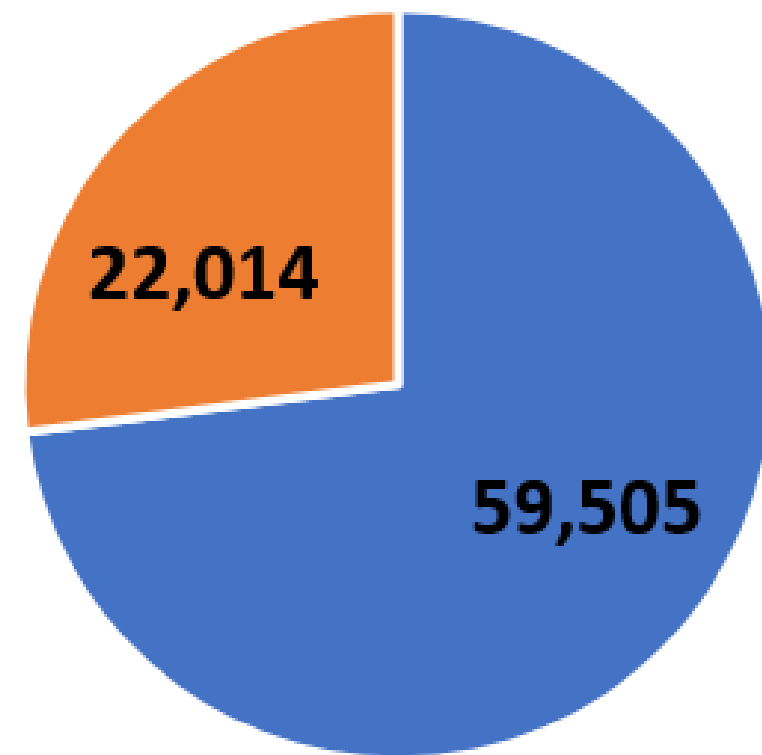
School Feeding in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Focus on Belize

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National Healthy Start Feeding Program: Belize Demographics and NHSFP Coverage

Total Number of Students
(2022-2023 School Year)



■ Primary (314 Schools)

■ Secondary (63 Schools)

As of November 2023:

934 primary school students from 10 schools are benefiting from school feeding.

1.6%

3079 secondary school students from 9 schools across 3 districts have received the benefits from the NHSFP.

5.2%

School Feeding Progress:



The NHSFP follows the Sustainable Schools model which:

- ✓ Provides a healthy meal for students.
- ✓ Follows a school feeding menu (developed in 2022) for primary schools that includes breakfast and lunch options that are nutritionally balanced and prepared using over 70% locally produced items.
- ✓ Focusses on nutrition education for safe and quality food production. Cooks and school staff received training in food safety and nutrition while participating schools received kitchen upgrades.
- ✓ Targets the teaching of gardens for every school to develop students' ownership of food security and healthy nutritional habits.
- ✓ Links community farmers and cooperatives with schools with the intent that producers can provide items directly to school feeding programs (established through partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture).

Additional Progress & Upcoming Opportunities:

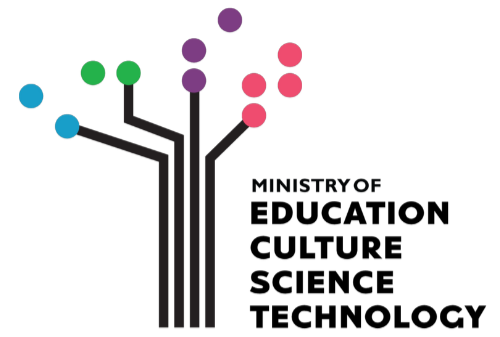
Additional Progress in School Feeding:

- Through AMEXCID FAO the Resilient School Feeding Program, conducted a survey in 2022 on student nutrition. Data identified high rates of overweight, increased obesity, and high consumption rates of sugar sweetened beverages and unhealthy foods in students ages 10 to 15.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Health, a sugar sweetened beverage ban for 18 pilot schools (3 Pre-primary, 9 Primary and 6 Secondary) is being rolled out.

Upcoming Opportunities:

- ❖ With the AMEXCID FAO Mesoamerica Without Hunger Program, a nutritionally balanced menu for secondary school students is being produced. Cooks' training will also continue focusing on food safety skills and using locally grown vegetables.
- ❖ The Healthy Start School Feeding Program is currently expanding to all districts, with the goal of bringing at least 30 new schools into the feeding program as soon as possible.





Thank you!