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Participation of Schools and Pupils in

# School Lunch Programs

in elementary and secondary schools  
of the United States

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## PREFACE

This study of school feeding programs in the United States is one in a series of reports evaluating selected aspects of public programs. The research on which it is based is part of a broad program designed to expand the market for farm products.

Many school officials cooperated by making available the data upon which this report is based. William S. Hoofnagle, Market Development Branch, rendered valuable assistance in the analysis of data and preparation of this report. Special acknowledgment is made to Allen D. Manvel, Chief, Governments Division, Bureau of the Census, and members of his staff for collection and tabulation of data for the study.

This study was conducted under the direction of Robert M. Walsh, Chief, Market Development Branch, Agricultural Marketing Service. Officials of the Food Distribution Division, AMS, gave valuable assistance in the planning of the study, particularly S. C. Vanneman, Chief, Program Analysis and Development Branch.

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Participation of Schools and Pupils in  
SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
OF THE UNITED STATES

By Kenneth E. Anderson, agricultural economist, Market Development Branch

SUMMARY

Approximately two-thirds of the 33 million pupils in the public elementary and secondary schools of the United States were enrolled in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program in March 1957; one-tenth were in schools having other plate lunch service; less than one twenty-fifth were in schools offering only a la carte service; and one-fifth were in schools having no lunch service.

This information is based on results of a sample survey of 4,347 public elementary and secondary schools in March 1957. The study was made to ascertain the extent of school and pupil participation in feeding programs in the United States and factors associated with participation of pupils in such programs.

About 45 percent, or 10 million, of the pupils in the participating schools daily ate lunches provided under the National School Lunch Program. About 1 million of the pupils in schools serving plate lunches not provided under the National School Lunch Program ate, on a daily basis, the plate lunches provided. Thus, about one-third of the pupils enrolled in public schools below the college level participated daily in school feeding services offering plate lunches.

Undoubtedly many of the pupils in the schools offering only a la carte service ate a balanced meal. However, the number of such pupils is not known, nor is it possible to know how many children ate a part of their lunch in school.

Findings of the study indicated that certain factors were associated with high participation in feeding programs. A low-priced lunch, eating together of faculty and pupils, dependence of pupils on school transportation, and modernized kitchens and lunchrooms were associated with higher levels of participation in school feeding programs. In contrast, publication of menus in advance was associated with lower levels of pupil participation. Other factors considered but appearing to have little, if any, influence on pupil participation included availability of commercial eating facilities near the school and seating capacity and location of the lunchroom within the school building.

Data were grouped by prices paid for lunches to indicate the level of pupil participation in both the National School Lunch Program and other plate lunch programs at each price. In schools under the National School Lunch Program, participation of pupils in the lunch program was highest where prices were lowest. The same tendency, but not so decisive, was found in schools



serving other plate lunches. Nearly half of the schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and more than one-third of those serving other plate lunches charged 25 cents for the lunch.

The outlet for food in schools is increasing in importance as a segment of the away-from-home eating market. In 1957, the total value of the food used by schools participating in the National School Lunch Program was \$534 million. Of this amount, the schools spent about \$392 million, or 73 percent, with local food suppliers. The Federal Government contributed the remaining \$142 million through purchases of food under Section 6 of the National School Lunch Act and donations of surplus commodities.

Cash receipts from food sales in public elementary and secondary schools having lunch service in March 1957 totaled about \$65 million. Among schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, the dollar value of sales of plate lunches to pupils enrolled represented 83 percent of total food sales, and in other schools serving plate lunches the percentage was 63.

During the survey month, March 1957, 98 percent of the schools participating in the National School Lunch Program received surplus agricultural commodities, compared with 83 percent of the schools offering other plate lunch service but not participating in the program. Of those schools offering a la carte service only, 52 percent received surplus products.

#### INTRODUCTION

Serving lunches to school children is not new. Responsible groups in many communities throughout the country recognized the need and value of school feeding long ago and acted to implement feeding programs. The programs established by such groups provided the nucleus of the present day National School Lunch Program. Although most schools having a feeding program operate under the National School Lunch Act, many schools still have their own programs and offer plate lunches that do not come under the national program. Federal assistance for school feeding first became available during the early 1930's. Development of school feeding was accelerated by enactment of Federal legislation in 1935, whereby commodities purchased with Section 32 funds were made available by the Department of Agriculture to schools serving lunches on a nonprofit basis.

The National School Lunch Act, which became effective June 4, 1946, placed the program on a permanent basis. The basic purpose of the program, as spelled out in the legislation, is to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation's children by encouraging them to eat more nutritious foods. Federal funds are provided to assist in the operation of nonprofit school lunch programs. The Department of Agriculture carries out the provisions of the act with the cooperation of the State departments of education.

Public and nonprofit private schools of high school grade or under may participate in the program and apply for Federal assistance. Stipulation for

participation by schools in the program is that nutritious meals must be served on a nonprofit basis and must be available to all children regardless of their ability to pay and without discrimination.

A phenomenal growth has taken place in school feeding during the past 10 years in the United States. Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands also participate in the National School Lunch Program and receive donated foods, but data for these areas are not included in this report.

Under the National School Lunch Program the rate of growth may be measured on a regional and national basis in terms of the number of meals served. Schools operating under the program served almost 645 million meals in 1947; by 1957 the number had risen to slightly over 1,712 million, an increase of 165 percent. <sup>1/</sup> The increase in number of meals served was greatest in the Northeast, with a 228 percent gain. Large increases also took place in the Midwest and West. Smallest increases in number of meals served during the 11-year period were recorded in the Southeast and the Southwest, 131 percent and 132 percent, respectively. School feeding on a large scale received its earliest start and greatest impetus in the Southeast region. In the last two regions substantial growth had taken place in school feeding before 1947.

Another means of measuring the change in the size of the school feeding program is in terms of expenditures. Under the National School Lunch Program total Federal and State expenditures for food and service amounted to almost \$221 million in 1947. By 1957 total outlay had climbed to \$785 million, a rise of 255 percent. During the period, Federal contributions to the program increased 187 percent, whereas contributions from sources within the States rose 292 percent.

The greatest percentage increase in total Federal and State expenditures between 1947 and 1957 occurred in the West. This region, however, spent less than any of the other regions in 1947. The smallest percentage increase in total program expenditures was in the Southeast, and the next smallest was in the Southwest--regions in which substantial feeding programs were already under way in 1947.

The study reported upon here was conducted in March 1957 to determine the extent of school feeding programs in the United States, student participation therein, and factors associated with participation of pupils in the National School Lunch Program and other feeding services. Findings are based on a representative national sample of 4,347 of the approximately 106,000 public elementary and secondary schools. Selection of the sample and collection and tabulation of data were performed by the Bureau of the Census for the United States Department of Agriculture.

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<sup>1/</sup> Unpublished data, Food Distribution Division, AMS.

Approximately 2,100 of the 15,600 nonprofit private schools were participating in the National School Lunch Program during the survey month; however, data were not obtained on the operation of the program in such schools.

States included in each of the regions were as follows: Northeast: Maine, Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York. Southeast: Florida, Tennessee, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky. Midwest: Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin. Southwest: Kansas, Arkansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas. West: Montana, California, Utah, Wyoming, Washington, Nevada, Oregon, Arizona, Idaho.

## NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

### School and Pupil Participation

One-half of the public elementary and secondary schools in the United States participated in the National School Lunch Program in March 1957.

Notable regional differences occurred in the participation of schools in the National School Lunch Program. Highest participation was in the Southeast with over two-thirds of the schools in the program. In contrast, lowest participation was in the Midwest with only about one-third of the schools participating (tables 1 and 5). However, there are more schools in the Midwest than in any other region.

Substantial differences prevailed among regions in the percentage of pupils attending schools that participated in the National School Lunch Program. As in number of schools participating, the Southeast region had the largest proportion of pupils in schools operating under the program, whereas the Midwest had the smallest proportion (tables 1 and 6).

Participation of pupils in school lunch programs, however, was by no means as high as the previously cited data might indicate. In the National School Lunch Program the daily average number of lunches sold was equal to 42 percent of total pupil enrollment (hereafter referred to as average daily participation of pupils in the lunch program); if lunches served free to pupils are included, the percentage becomes 45 (tables 7 and 8). The percentage of pupils participating one or more times during the month is undoubtedly higher, but not all pupils participate regularly. Thus, with 67.8 percent of the total pupil enrollment in schools having the National School Lunch Program, and with 45 percent of those pupils participating on an average daily basis, 31 percent of the pupils in public elementary and secondary schools of the country apparently were participating in the National School Lunch Program in March 1957. In absolute terms, participation was just slightly under 10 million pupils during the survey month.

Table 1.--Percentage of all schools and pupils participating in the National School Lunch Program, by regions, population density, size of school, and grades taught, March 1957

Item	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Number of schools as percentage of all schools	Pupil enrollment as percent- age of all pupils	Average daily participation as percentage of enrollment in participating schools	Average daily participation as a percentage of enrollment in U. S. schools Cols.(2)x(3)+100
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
United States.....	50	68	45	31
Regions <u>1/</u> :				
Northeast.....	48	61	36	22
Southeast.....	69	81	53	43
Midwest.....	34	60	45	27
Southwest.....	60	69	50	34
West.....	57	70	37	26
Population density:				
Counties of less than 100,000.....	49	76	52	40
Other counties and metrop. areas of over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	55	64	45	29
21 largest metrop. areas.....	47	57	27	15
Size of school:				
Under 250 pupils.....	34	53	64	34
250-499 pupils.....	68	68	53	36
500 or more pupils.....	72	71	37	26
Grades taught:				
Elementary.....	41	62	49	30
Junior and senior high.....	67	68	32	22
Other <u>2/</u> .....	83	86	49	42

1/ Northeast: Maine, Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York.

Southeast: Florida, Tennessee, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky.

Midwest: Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin.

Southwest: Kansas, Arkansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas.

West: Montana, California, Utah, Wyoming, Washington, Nevada, Oregon, Arizona, Idaho.

2/ Combination of various grades.

The average number of lunches daily as a percentage of pupils enrolled indicates the participation of pupils in the National School Lunch Program. Average daily participation of pupils in the Program was highest in the Southeast and Southwest and lowest in the Northeast and West.

For the United States as a whole, participation of schools in the program was highest in medium-sized communities, in schools with 500 or more pupils, and in schools in which various combinations of elementary and secondary grades were taught. 2/ Lowest participation by schools prevailed in the largest cities, in the smallest schools, and in the elementary grades. Differences by population density were not so pronounced as they were for size of school and grades taught (table 1).

The proportion of all pupils in schools which participated in the program was highest in the less densely populated areas, in schools having a large pupil enrollment, and where a combination of grades were taught (table 1). Average daily participation of pupils, as measured by the average number of lunches served per pupil enrolled in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, was highest in the less densely populated areas, in small schools, and where elementary grades or a combination of grades were taught.

In schools under the National School Lunch Program, participation of pupils in the lunch program tended to be slightly lower in schools having the Special Milk Program (table 9).

#### Factors Associated With Pupil Participation

It was assumed that certain factors influenced the level of pupil participation in feeding programs. To evaluate the assumption, quantitative data were obtained on (1) prices paid by pupils for lunch, (2) administrative action of the school, (3) competitive forces outside the school, and (4) physical facilities. Although certain cross relationships among these factors exist, when data were grouped into each of these categories relationships in varying degrees were found between pupil participation and the factors assumed to influence participation. The attitude of the principal of the school is an influence in the success of a lunch program.

Price of lunch.--The average price paid for lunches by pupils in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program was 24.2 cents. The price paid for lunches in the Southeast and Southwest regions was below the national average by 1.1 and 2.4 cents, respectively, and it was in these two regions that pupil participation was highest. The highest price paid for lunches was in the Northeast region, where pupils paid 1.7 cents above the national average price. On a national basis, the lowest prices were paid for lunches in the less densely populated areas and in schools with less than 250 pupils. The price paid for lunches in junior and senior high schools considerably exceeded that paid in elementary grades and combinations of grades; and the level of participation in the high school grades was much lower than that in the other grades (table 10).

2/ Combination of grades is defined as a grouping of elementary and secondary classes.

In addition to average prices paid for lunches, data were grouped by the various prices paid for lunches to indicate the level of pupil participation in the National School Lunch Program at each price. Participation of pupils was highest where lunch prices were lowest. This relationship was true for the elementary and secondary grades and for combinations of grades. Nearly half of the schools participating in the National School Lunch Program charged 25 cents for the lunch, and one-fourth charged 20 cents. About 95 percent of the schools selling lunches under the program priced their lunches in multiples of 5 cents. This pricing practice probably minimizes accounting difficulties (table 11).

Certain administrative actions of the school were assumed to affect the level of pupil participation in school feeding. Included in this category were: (1) Time allowed pupils for lunch, (2) usual eating place of the faculty, (3) proportion of pupils transported to school by bus, (4) advanced publication of menus, and (5) sponsorship of feeding service.

Time allowed pupils for lunch.--No definite patterns were established between level of pupil participation in the program schools and length of lunch period. The average amount of time allowed students for lunch ranged from 33 to 40 minutes by regions (table 12).

Usual eating place of the faculty.--The eating together of faculty and pupils appears to influence the level of participation in school feeding. The data indicated that under the National School Lunch Program participation (number of meals served daily as percentage of enrollment) was highest in regions where the greatest proportion of schools had faculty and pupils eating lunch together (table 13).

Transportation of pupils by bus.--Pupil participation in feeding programs tended to be higher in schools that provided transportation for half or more of their student enrollment. For instance, in the Southeast where participation under the National School Lunch Program was highest, more than two-thirds of the schools provided public transportation for half or more of their pupils. The greatest proportion of schools transporting half or more of their students was found in the less densely populated areas and in schools having a small enrollment; it was in these same categories that pupil participation in participating schools was greatest (table 14).

Advance publication of menus.--Some question has arisen among school administrators regarding the effect of publishing lunch menus in advance. In this connection some administrators felt that advance publication of menus might adversely affect pupil participation in school feeding programs. Findings from the survey indicated that a large percentage of the schools under the national program that published menus in advance had low pupil participation. More than 75 percent of the schools in the Northeast, where pupil participation was lowest, published menus in advance, contrasted to slightly less than 59 percent in the Southeast, where participation was highest. The same kind of relationship was found in breakdowns by population density and size of school (tables 7 and 15).

Sponsorship of feeding service.--For the most part lunchrooms were sponsored by the school. On a national basis, lunchroom sponsorship by Parent-Teachers Associations occurred in only about 4 percent of the schools serving plate lunches (table 16). Sponsorship of feeding services by civic and other outside local groups in schools under the National School Lunch Program was most pronounced in the Northeast.

Competitive sources of food.--Competitive factors such as the proportion of pupils (1) going home for lunch, (2) patronizing commercial eating facilities, and (3) carrying packed lunches have a direct bearing on the level of pupil participation in school feeding services.

At least half the pupils in approximately 28 percent of the schools under the National School Lunch Program go home for lunch. In the Southeast, pupils in slightly less than 17 percent of the schools have lunch at home. In about 25 percent of the schools in the Northeast, half or more of the pupils go home for lunch, and in the rest of the regions approximately 34 percent of the schools fall into this category (table 17).

The availability of commercial eating facilities located near schools might logically be expected to decrease pupil participation in feeding programs. In the Southeast region, 83 percent of the schools under the National School Lunch Program had no pupils patronizing commercial eating establishments, as contrasted to a national average of 73 percent. The largest proportion of schools operating under the program in which a sizable number of pupils patronized commercial eating facilities was located in the Southwest and Northeast regions (table 18). The influence of the availability of commercial eating establishments on pupil participation in school feeding programs appears to be inconclusive in that pupil participation was lowest in the Northeast but second highest in the Southwest.

In more than two-thirds of the schools under the National School Lunch Program in the Southeast, half or more of the pupils carried packed lunches. Although the Southeast was highest in pupil participation, the percentage of schools in which half or more of the pupils carried home-packed lunches considerably exceeded the national average of 50 percent (table 19).

The adequacy of physical facilities as indicated by factors such as (1) seating capacity, (2) location of lunchroom, and (3) average age and years since modernization of the kitchen and lunchroom was believed to influence pupil participation in school feeding programs. If physical facilities are less than adequate, pupils tend to obtain their lunches at outside establishments or carry home-packed lunches.

Seating capacity.--If seating capacity was not sufficient to accommodate a substantial proportion of the students at one time, participation was expected to be adversely affected. In schools under the National School Lunch Program about one-third of the pupils could be seated at one time. Among regions, seating capacity ranged from a low of 31 percent in the Southeast to a high of 37 percent in the Southwest, with apparently no direct relationship between level of seating capacity and participation (table 20).

Lunchroom location.--Having the lunchroom in the school building might be considered conducive to keeping pupils within the school and away from other eating places. In most schools in which plate lunches were served the lunchroom was located in the school building. In the survey no definite relationships were established between the proportion of schools in which the lunchroom was located within the building and participation of pupils in the feeding service (table 21).

Modernized lunchrooms.--As another factor, the adequacy of physical feeding facilities in terms of modernized kitchens and lunchrooms was evaluated in terms of its effect on participation of pupils in feeding programs. A modernized kitchen and lunchroom was thought to be associated with higher pupil participation. Kitchens and lunchrooms for all schools that had been modernized most recently were found in the regions where pupil participation was highest. Schools in less densely populated areas, small- and medium-sized schools in terms of pupil enrollment, and the elementary and combination grades had the most recently modernized kitchens and lunchrooms (tables 22 and 23).

Local financial support.--Public interest in school feeding programs is reflected partly in the local financial support of such programs. From the study it was found that local groups paid one-fourth of the total lunch cost in 25 percent of the public schools in the National School Lunch Program (table 24).

#### Cash Receipts From Food Sales

The school lunch program in the individual school is supported largely through cash payments made for plate lunches by pupils participating. It is estimated that in 1957 slightly over 53 percent of the funds expended in operating the National School Lunch Program came from cash payments made by pupils. <sup>3/</sup> In the same year, Federal contributions amounted to 28 percent, and the remaining funds were provided through State and local contributions.

Cash receipts from food sales in public elementary and secondary schools having lunch service in March 1957 totaled \$65 million (table 25). Largest receipts for the month were in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, with \$54 million or almost 84 percent of the total. Other schools serving plate lunches accounted for 12 percent of the total, and the remaining 4 percent of cash receipts originated in schools offering a la carte service only.

In schools operating under the National School Lunch Program, complete plate lunches accounted for 83 percent of total cash receipts from food sales, compared with 63 percent in schools serving plate lunches but not participating in the Federal program. The higher proportion of cash receipts from plate lunches in schools under the National School Lunch Program may be attributed in part to a restricted choice of foods other than a complete meal. Complete plate lunches are generally recognized as providing better balanced and more nutritious food than "free-choice" meals.

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<sup>3/</sup> Unpublished data, Food Distribution Division, AMS.



When those schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and all other schools offering plate lunches were combined, 81 percent of total cash receipts were obtained from sales of plate lunches. On the combined basis, plate lunches as a percentage of total cash receipts were highest in the Southeast region, in counties with population densities of less than 100,000, in schools with less than 250 pupils enrolled, and in schools where a combination of grades was taught. In contrast, plate lunches as a percentage of total cash receipts were lowest in the Northeastern region, in large metropolitan areas, in schools with 500 or more pupils enrolled, and in schools with only junior and senior high school grades. The association between the proportion that plate lunch receipts are of total food sales and the population density of the area in which the school is located, the size of the school, and the grades taught seems to be high.

#### Acquiring Food for School Feeding

A substantial proportion of the food utilized in school feeding programs is acquired locally through regular commercial channels by individual schools or school systems. Funds obtained from children's payments, State and local contributions, and the Department of Agriculture's Cash Assistance Program are used in purchasing food through local outlets. <sup>4/</sup> In 1957, about \$392 million, or about 73 percent of the total expenditures for food used by schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, was spent locally. The outlet for food in schools is increasing in importance as a segment of the away-from-home eating market.

In addition to local purchases, the Department of Agriculture buys and distributes to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program, food of a high nutritive value under a provision (Section 6) of the National School Lunch Act. Food acquired and distributed under Section 6 during 1957 amounted to \$14.4 million or about 3 percent of total Federal and State expenditures for food.

From time to time the Department of Agriculture makes available surplus foods acquired under Section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1935, as amended, and under Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended. These foods are donated to all eligible nonprofit schools of high school grade and under regardless of their participation or nonparticipation in the National School Lunch Program. Section 32 of the act of 1935 encourages domestic utilization of surplus agricultural commodities through purchases and donations to eligible recipients. Section 416 of the act of 1949 authorizes the donation to eligible domestic recipients of commodities acquired under price support programs of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Surplus commodities acquired and donated to schools under these two programs in 1957 amounted to \$128 million, or almost 24 percent of the total Federal and State expenditures for food used by those schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. <sup>5/</sup>

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<sup>4/</sup> The Cash Assistance Program was established in 1943 and continued in the National School Lunch Act of 1946.

<sup>5/</sup> Unpublished data, Food Distribution Division, AMS.

During the survey month, March 1957, almost 98 percent of the schools participating in the National School Lunch Program received surplus agricultural products compared with 83 percent of other schools offering plate lunches (table 26). In those schools offering a la carte service only, 52 percent received surplus commodities.

## OTHER PLATE LUNCH PROGRAMS

### School and Pupil Participation

About 6 percent of the total public schools, representing about 10 percent of the pupil enrollment below the college level, offered plate lunch combinations but did not participate in the National School Lunch Program during March 1957 (table 2). The percentage of schools serving plate lunches other than those served under the National School Lunch Program was highest in the Southwest. Enrollment in schools serving such lunches, as a percentage of all pupils in United States public schools, was also highest in the Southwest.

In schools serving "other" plate lunches, an average of 33 percent of the pupils enrolled participated daily. (Average daily participation is the average number of lunches served daily). Enrollment in such schools represented about one-tenth of the total pupil enrollment in all public schools. Thus, about 3 percent of the pupils in public elementary and secondary schools of the country participated in other plate lunch service. Just over 1 million pupils participated in this service daily. Average daily participation as a percentage of enrollment in schools serving "other" plate lunches was highest in the Southeast and Midwest.

In schools serving plate lunches but not under the National School Lunch Program, participation in the lunch program tended to be slightly lower in schools having the Special Milk Program (table 9).

On a national basis, the percentage of schools and pupils in such programs was highest in the largest cities, in the largest schools, and in the junior and senior high school grades (table 2).

The number of lunches served daily, as a percentage of total enrollment, was highest in the less densely populated areas, smallest schools, and combinations of grades. Average daily participation, as a percentage of school enrollment in the United States, was highest in the medium-sized cities, small schools, and elementary grades.

### Factors Associated With Pupil Participation

As with schools under the National School Lunch Program, it was assumed that certain factors influenced the level of pupil participation in feeding programs not under the national program.

Price of lunch.--In schools offering plate lunches not under the National School Lunch Program, the relationship between the price paid for lunches and the level of pupil participation was not so marked as that found under the

Table 2.--Percentage of all schools and pupils participating in plate lunch programs not under the National School Lunch Program, by regions, population density, size of school, and grades taught, March 1957

Item	Other plate lunch service			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Number of schools as percentage of all schools	Pupil enrollment as percent age of all pupils	Average daily participation as percentage of enrollment in participating schools	Average daily participation as a percentage of enrollment in U. S. schools
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
United States.....	6	10	33	3
Regions <u>1</u> /:				
Northeast.....	4	6	26	2
Southeast.....	7	10	40	4
Midwest.....	6	9	40	4
Southwest.....	10	15	31	5
West.....	6	10	24	2
Population density:				
Counties of less than 100,000.....	6	7	46	3
Other counties and metrop. areas of over 100,000 but less than 700,000..	8	12	31	4
21 largest metrop. areas.....	10	12	20	2
Size of school:				
Under 250 pupils....	5	9	53	5
250-499 pupils.....	6	6	43	3
500 or more pupils..	10	11	26	3
Grades taught:				
Elementary.....	6	9	39	4
Junior and senior high.....	10	14	21	3
Other <u>2</u> /.....	5	6	42	3

1/ See footnote to table 1.

2/ Combination of various grades.

National School Lunch Program. But in the Western region where lunch prices were highest, pupil participation was lowest. Again, prices were highest and participation lowest in the junior and senior high school grades (table 10).

Data were grouped by the various prices paid for lunches to indicate the level of pupil participation in "other" plate lunch programs at each price. For the most part, for all schools and for the elementary schools, participation tended to be higher in those charging lower prices. However, in secondary grades and in combinations of grades no definite pattern was established between price of lunch and pupil participation in the lunch program. More than one-third of the schools serving other plate lunches charged 25 cents for the lunch, and one-fifth charged 20 cents. About 93 percent of the schools selling other plate lunches priced them in multiples of 5 cents (table 27).

Time allowed pupils for lunch.--As in schools under the National School Lunch Program, no definite patterns were established between level of pupil participation and length of lunch period in schools serving "other" plate lunches (table 12).

Usual eating place of faculty.--Highest pupil participation was found in the regions where the largest proportion of schools had the faculty and pupils eating together (table 13).

Transportation of pupils by bus.--In regions where participation was highest, about one-half of the schools serving "other" plate lunches provided public transportation for half or more of their enrollment. The greatest proportion of schools transporting half or more of their students was found in the less densely populated areas and where a combination of grades was taught (table 14).

Advance publication of menus.--Advance publication of menus apparently had the same effect on pupil participation in schools serving "other" plate lunches as in schools under the National School Lunch Program. A large percentage of the schools publishing menus in advance was associated with low pupil participation (table 15).

Sponsorship of feeding service.--In most instances lunchrooms were sponsored by the school (table 16). Sponsorship of feeding services in schools by civic and other outside local groups was most pronounced in the Southeast region in schools serving plate lunches but not under the National School Lunch Program.

Home lunches.--In schools providing plate lunches, but not under the National School Lunch Program, the smallest percentage of schools in which half or more of the pupils went home for lunch was in the Southeast region. High pupil participation in school feeding tended to be associated with a small percentage of schools in which half or more of the pupils went home for lunch (table 17).

Nearby commercial eating establishments.--The availability of nearby commercial eating establishments apparently does not exert as strong an influence as might have been expected on the level of pupil participation in school feeding programs (table 18).

Packed lunches.--In more than two-thirds of the schools in the Southeast, half or more of the pupils carried packed lunches, which was identical to the situation in schools under the National School Lunch Program in this region (table 19).

Seating capacity.--In schools serving "other" plate lunches, about one-third of the pupils could be seated at one time. Among regions, seating capacity ranged from a low of 25 percent in the Southeast to a high of 42 percent in the Midwest, with apparently no direct relationship between level of seating capacity and participation (table 20).

Lunchroom location.--In most schools in which plate lunches were served, the lunchroom was located in the school building. The study revealed no definite relationships between the proportion of schools in which the lunchroom was located within the building and participation of pupils in the feeding service (table 21).

Modernized lunchrooms.--A modernized kitchen and lunchroom were associated with higher pupil participation. On a regional basis kitchens and lunchrooms that had been modernized most recently were found in regions where pupil participation was highest. However, the most pronounced differences in years since modernization of kitchens and lunchrooms occurred between secondary and other schools. Kitchens and lunchrooms in elementary grades had been modernized during the previous 8 years and in the combination grades during the previous 6 years, contrasted to 11 years for kitchens and 14 years for lunchrooms in the secondary schools (tables 22 and 23).

Local financial support.--Public interest in school feeding programs, as indicated by local financial support of such programs, was reflected by local groups paying one-fourth of the total lunch cost in 30 percent of the public schools with a plate lunch service not under the National School Lunch Program (table 24).

#### A LA CARTE FEEDING PROGRAMS

For the country as a whole, 1 percent of the schools offered a la carte service only, but had an enrollment of 3 percent of the pupil population. Though small in number, schools offering a la carte food services tended to be more prominent in the Southwest and Western regions than in other regions, and in both regions, 5 percent of the pupils attended schools where such feeding services were available. In contrast, only about 1 percent of the pupils in the Midwest attended schools with a la carte feeding service only (table 3).

Participation of schools in feeding programs involving a la carte service only was greatest in medium-sized cities, in schools having a large student enrollment, and in junior and senior high schools (table 3).

Table 3.--Percentage of schools with a la carte service only and percentage of pupils enrolled in these schools, by regions, population density, size of school, and grades taught, March 1957

Item	: Schools offering a la: : carte service only	: Pupils enrolled as : percentage of : all pupils
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
United States.....	1.1	3.1
Regions <sup>1/</sup> :		
Northeast.....	1.5	4.2
Southeast.....	1.1	2.0
Midwest.....	.5	1.2
Southwest.....	1.6	4.7
West.....	1.9	4.7
Population density:		
Counties of less than		
100,000.....	.5	.8
Other counties and metrop.		
areas of over 100,000 but		
less than 700,000.....	2.7	5.9
21 largest metrop. areas.....	2.2	4.6
Size of school:		
Under 250 pupils.....	.4	.4
250-499 pupils.....	.5	.6
500 or more pupils.....	3.6	5.0
Grades taught:		
Elementary.....	.5	.8
Junior and senior high.....	5.6	9.6
Other <sup>2/</sup> .....	.7	1.4

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote to table 1.

<sup>2/</sup> Combination of various grades.

Public interest in school feeding programs was indicated by the local financial support of such programs. Local groups paid one-fourth of the total lunch cost in 17 percent of the public schools with a la carte service only (table 24).

#### SCHOOLS WITHOUT LUNCH SERVICE

No lunch service was provided in approximately two-fifths of the Nation's public schools. The highest proportion of schools without any form of food service except milk prevailed in the Midwest where more than half of the schools had no feeding facilities (table 4).

Although approximately 40 percent of the schools in the Nation offered no feeding services, only 20 percent of the total pupil population attended such schools. Of the schools without any form of food service except milk, 79 percent had an enrollment of less than 250 pupils. For the most part, these schools were in the less densely populated areas and only the elementary grades were taught in them (table 4). Schools without lunch service were found to have a longer lunch period than those with a lunch service.

The extent of participation by schools in a feeding program is apparently correlated with size of school enrollment. This finding is supported by the fact that nonparticipation was highest in small schools and the degree of participation by schools in any form of feeding service was always lowest in schools with a small enrollment.

Table 4.--Percentage of all schools and pupils enrolled in schools without lunch service, by regions, population density, size of school, and grades taught, March 1957

Item	Schools without lunch service	Pupils enrolled as percentage of all pupils
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
United States.....	43	20
Regions <u>1</u> /:		
Northeast.....	46	29
Southeast.....	24	7
Midwest.....	60	30
Southwest.....	28	11
West.....	35	14
Population density:		
Counties of less than 100,000.....	45	17
Other counties and metrop. areas of over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	35	18
21 largest metrop. areas.....	41	26
Size of school:		
Under 250 pupils.....	61	38
250-499 pupils.....	25	25
500 or more pupils.....	15	13
Grades taught:		
Elementary.....	52	29
Junior and senior high.....	17	9
Other <u>2</u> /.....	11	7

1/ See footnotes to table 1.

2/ Combination of various grades.



APPENDIX A - METHODOLOGY

For the survey of school and pupil participation in school feeding programs, a random sample was selected of approximately 5,000 public elementary and secondary schools throughout the Nation. In its preparations for the 1957 Census of Governments, the Bureau of the Census compiled a complete card listing of all public school systems in operation as of October 1956, together with the number of individual schools operated in each system. These cards were arranged by States. The districts or systems were sampled with probabilities proportionate to the number of schools in the district or system. All sample systems were then canvassed for lists (directories or other) of their individual schools. The sample schools were selected within the sampled systems so as to produce a self-weighting sample with the uniform sampling fraction of 5/96. This yielded a sample of approximately 5,500 schools, which was subsampled systematically at random to reduce the sample to 5,000 schools for survey coverage.

The survey was conducted by mail, employing successively more intensive followup steps to stimulate response until the cut-off date for data collection. By that time a response rate considerably in excess of 90 percent had been attained.

Incoming materials were examined for internal consistency, conformance with instructions, completeness, and other quality standards. Where necessary, correspondence was undertaken to correct deficiencies and improve the accuracy of the reporting on all questions. Some replies were unusable for tabulation, and some schools were closed in the survey month. The net result was a sample of 4,347 schools providing usable information.

The method of expansion involved applying a factor (24.3722) to reported information and adding the results to obtain regional and national totals. As a result of rounding in the addition process, the reported national total of schools is 20 more than would have resulted from the direct application of the weighting factor to the entire sample without subclassification. The factor 24.3722 is the ratio of all elementary and secondary public schools in the United States to schools in the sample.

Variance calculations were made of key measures within the framework of the foregoing sample description (table 28). These calculations do not reflect possible biases because of nonresponses. These calculations indicate that although the sample was designed to produce national estimates, regional totals for much of the information also have relatively low sampling variability. The formula used to compute sampling variations of the number of schools by type of lunch service is noted below.

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{(1 - \frac{n' \text{ reg.}}{N' \text{ Reg.}}) (\frac{1}{n'g} - \frac{1}{n' \text{ reg.}})}{}}$$

N' Reg. = total for region

n' reg. = sample in region

n' g = number of positive answers for cell

Sampling variability as shown in table 28 was calculated by dividing the standard deviation ( $v$ ) by the estimated number of schools. To illustrate the use of sampling variability, consider the number of schools in the Northeast region offering a complete plate lunch under the National School Lunch Program. An estimated 10,114 schools are included in this category, and in table 28 the coefficient of variation of this estimate is 3 percent. There are, therefore, about 2 chances out of 3 that the number of schools in the Northeast region offering a complete lunch under the National School Lunch Program, as determined by a complete census, would be between 9,811 and 10,417.

**APPENDIX B - SCHEDULE**

Budget Bureau No. 40-56105; Approval Expires June 30, 1957

Form SL-1 (2-13-57) U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS In cooperation with U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SURVEY OF SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES	Instructions - Please answer the questions on this form as of the month of March 1957 for the school plant shown in the address box. If exact figures as to some items are not available, enter estimates and mark with an asterisk (*). Please complete and return the white copy of the form promptly - within 10 days if possible.
<b>T0: Bureau of the Census, Governments Division, Washington 25, D. C.</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div>
Data supplied by	
Name	
Title	
School	
Address	
School district	

**Section I - GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Total enrollment as of March 1, 1957 (Note: Please exclude kindergarten classes in answering this and all other questions on this form)..... _____	5. Proportion of students usually transported to and from school by bus (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> None of the students <input type="checkbox"/> Less than half of the students <input type="checkbox"/> Half or more of the students
2. Of the March 1 enrollment, how many attended classes only on a half-day basis?.. _____	6. Does your school receive Federally donated surplus commodities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Grades taught in this school (show lowest, excluding kindergarten, and highest grades taught).....to _____	
4. Number of days this school was open in March..... _____	

**Section II - STUDENT LUNCHING ARRANGEMENTS AND FACILITIES**

7. Does your school have a student lunchroom or a multipurpose room that is used as a lunchroom? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  If the answer to question 7 is "Yes, " please answer questions 8, 9 and 10 as indicated.																			
8. Number of years since construction of:  The lunchroom.. _____ The kitchen.. _____	10. a. How many students can be seated in the lunchroom at one time?..... _____  b. Is the lunchroom (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> In the school building? <input type="checkbox"/> In a separate building on the school grounds? <input type="checkbox"/> In a separate building off the school grounds?																		
9. Number of years since last major modernization of:  The lunchroom.. _____ The kitchen.. _____	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:60%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">None of the students</td> <td style="width:15%; text-align: center;">Less than half of the students</td> <td style="width:15%; text-align: center;">Half or more of the students</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Usually go home for lunch</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Usually carry lunch</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Usually patronize commercial lunch facilities near school</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				None of the students	Less than half of the students	Half or more of the students	Usually go home for lunch				Usually carry lunch				Usually patronize commercial lunch facilities near school			
				None of the students	Less than half of the students	Half or more of the students													
Usually go home for lunch																			
Usually carry lunch																			
Usually patronize commercial lunch facilities near school																			
11. Where do most members of the school faculty eat (check one)? a. <input type="checkbox"/> In the home room with students (meals prepared in school kitchen) b. <input type="checkbox"/> In the lunchroom at tables with children c. <input type="checkbox"/> In the lunchroom at separate faculty tables d. <input type="checkbox"/> In a separate room or away from school	12. What proportion of the students of your school not using school lunch facilities follow each of the lunching practices listed below? (check one box on each line).																		
13. On the average, how many minutes are allowed students for the lunch period?..... _____ (Minutes)	(Minutes)																		

Continue form on reverse side

**Section III - LUNCH SERVICE PROVIDED**

14. Does your school provide any lunch service for students?  Yes  No  
 If "Yes," please answer questions 15 through 27 below.  
 If "No," skip to Section IV of the questionnaire.

15. On how many days was lunch service provided during March?..... \_\_\_\_\_

17. Is the school lunch service operated on a nonprofit basis?  Yes  No

18. How many serving periods per day are necessary to provide lunch for all of the students served (check one box)?  
 One period                       Three periods  
 Two periods                       Four or more periods

19. What were the total gross receipts from all food sales (plate lunch sales plus a la carte items) to students in March? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

20. How many complete plate lunches were served to students during the month of March? (Exclude a la carte sales but include lunches served free-of-charge as well as lunches sold.)  
 Total number served..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of these served free-of-charge. \_\_\_\_\_

21. What is the price to the student of one complete plate lunch? (if there are two or more plate lunch prices, report the one that accounts for the largest number of plate lunch sales.)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Cents)

22. Does this price include dessert?  Yes  No

23. Does this price include milk?  Yes  No

24. Are students informed of each day's menu in advance?  Yes  No

25. Who sponsors the lunch program? (Check one box):  
 School     Parent-Teachers' Association     Other

16. Which of the kinds of lunch service listed below does your school provide (check one box)?  
 National school lunch program (with or without other food service)  
 Other complete plate lunch (with or without other food service)  
 A la carte service only

**NOTE:** For purposes of this questionnaire a "complete plate lunch" is a well-balanced, nutritious meal.

26. Which of the following best describes the contribution made by the school or other local groups to the cost of the school lunch program? (Check one box)  
 Contributes one-fourth or more of the total cost  
 Contributes less than one-fourth the total cost  
 Makes no contribution

27. Check below to indicate which of the listed food items are offered to students regularly, individually priced, in addition to or in lieu of a complete preplanned plate lunch:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soups                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Soft drinks           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit and vegetable juices | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice cream             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandwiches                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other desserts        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bread and rolls            | <input type="checkbox"/> Packaged snacks       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meats                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Candy                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh fruit                | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whole milk                 | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate drink            | _____  |

**Section IV - MILK SERVICE**

28. Indicate below the amount and unit prices of milk sold to students during March, including milk sold through vending machines, but not including milk served without extra charge as a part of the complete plate-lunch:

Item	Number of units sold	Price per unit paid by students (Cents)
Half pints		
One-third quarts		
Pints		
Other (specify)		

29. How many half-pints of milk were served free-of-charge to students in March? (If not in half-pint units, please specify unit reported.)..... \_\_\_\_\_

30. Check which of the following boxes apply to milk service in your school:  
 Milk is available:  Before or after school  
 At noon  
 Morning  
 Afternoon  
 At no time

31. On how many days during March, was milk available to students? \_\_\_\_\_

32. Kind of milk service to students:  
 (Check):  Vending machine     Other

33. Is milk served in your school under the Special School Milk Program?  Yes  No

APPENDIX C - TABLES

The following tables show data for the Nation and each of the regions used by the Food Distribution Division, AMS. Breakdowns for population density, size of school, and grades taught are shown only for the United States. Regional breakdowns by the three factors are available in the Department but are not published, as sampling variability, which ranged from 0 to 98 percent, was considered too high and erratic.

Table 5.--Number and percentage of schools serving lunch by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 <sup>1/</sup>

Item	Schools by type of lunch service											
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program			Other plate lunches			A la carte only			None		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
United States total.....	52,522	49.6	6,798	6.4	1,169	1.1	45,477	42.9	105,966	100.0		
Regions <sup>2/</sup> :												
Northeast.....	10,114	47.9	926	4.4	316	1.5	9,749	46.2	21,105	100.0		
Southeast.....	13,868	68.6	1,364	6.8	219	1.1	4,753	23.5	20,204	100.0		
Midwest.....	12,674	33.7	2,168	5.8	170	.5	22,544	60.0	37,556	100.0		
Southwest.....	9,188	59.6	1,585	10.3	244	1.6	4,386	28.5	15,403	100.0		
West.....	6,678	57.1	755	6.4	220	1.9	4,045	34.6	11,698	100.0		
Population density:												
Counties less than 100,000.....	35,292	48.6	3,972	5.5	341	.5	32,951	45.4	72,556	100.0		
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	10,479	54.8	1,462	7.7	511	2.7	6,653	34.8	19,105	100.0		
21 largest metrop. areas.....	6,751	47.2	1,364	9.5	317	2.2	5,873	41.1	14,305	100.0		
Size of school:												
Under 250 pupils.....	19,912	33.6	3,168	5.3	243	.4	36,019	60.7	59,342	100.0		
250-499 pupils.....	16,428	68.2	1,437	6.0	122	.5	6,093	25.3	24,080	100.0		
500 or more pupils.....	16,182	71.8	2,193	9.7	804	3.6	3,365	14.9	22,544	100.0		
Grades taught:												
Elementary.....	33,219	41.3	4,945	6.1	439	.5	41,941	52.1	80,544	100.0		
Junior and senior high.....	7,580	67.3	1,122	10.0	632	5.6	1,927	17.1	11,261	100.0		
Other <sup>3/</sup> .....	11,723	82.8	731	5.2	98	.7	1,609	11.3	14,161	100.0		

<sup>1/</sup> The data are subject to sampling variance.

<sup>2/</sup> Northeast: Maine, Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York.

Southeast: Florida, Tennessee, Mississippi, North Carolina, Alabama, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky.

Midwest: Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin.

Southwest: Kansas, Arkansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas.

West: Montana, California, Utah, Wyoming, Washington, Nevada, Oregon, Arizona, Idaho.

<sup>3/</sup> Combination of various grades.

Table 6.--Number and percentage of pupils enrolled in schools serving lunch by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Pupils in schools offering--									
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program	Other plate lunches	A la carte only	No lunch	Total	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
United States total.....	22,151,503	3,109,331	1,030,991	6,401,676	32,693,551	67.8	9.5	3.1	19.6	100.0
Regions 2/:										
Northeast.....	5,057,646	512,936	345,671	2,407,462	8,322,815	60.8	6.1	4.2	28.9	100.0
Southeast.....	5,930,122	752,443	144,234	492,099	7,318,898	81.0	10.3	2.0	6.7	100.0
Midwest.....	4,522,554	653,882	91,566	2,277,582	7,545,584	59.9	8.7	1.2	30.2	100.0
Southwest.....	3,144,014	681,959	215,279	505,188	4,546,440	69.2	15.0	4.7	11.1	100.0
West.....	3,497,167	509,061	234,241	719,345	4,959,814	70.5	10.3	4.7	14.5	100.0
Population density:										
Counties less than 100,000..	11,651,203	1,049,492	120,470	2,545,458	15,366,623	75.8	6.8	0.8	16.6	100.0
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	5,668,388	1,039,986	519,176	1,620,702	8,848,252	64.1	11.7	5.9	18.3	100.0
21 largest metrop. areas.....	4,831,912	1,019,903	391,345	2,235,516	8,478,676	57.0	12.0	4.6	26.4	100.0
Size of school:										
Under 250 pupils.....	2,515,332	437,042	16,745	1,799,938	4,769,057	52.7	9.2	.4	37.7	100.0
250-499 pupils.....	6,037,092	530,559	52,962	2,195,399	8,816,012	68.5	6.0	.6	24.9	100.0
500 or more pupils.....	13,599,079	2,141,780	961,284	2,406,339	19,108,482	71.2	11.2	5.0	12.6	100.0
Grades taught:										
Elementary.....	11,205,532	1,613,025	156,030	5,213,432	18,188,019	61.6	8.9	.8	28.7	100.0
Junior and senior high.....	5,531,662	1,116,831	789,049	756,393	8,193,935	67.5	13.7	9.6	9.2	100.0
Other 3/.....	5,414,309	379,525	85,912	431,851	6,311,597	85.8	6.0	1.4	6.8	100.0

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 7.--Average daily participation (number of lunches served daily) in feeding programs and ratio of average daily participation to pupils enrolled, by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service			
	Complete plate lunch under :		Other plate lunches	
	National School Lunch Program			
	Average daily participation:	Average daily participation:	Average daily participation:	Average daily participation:
	as percentage of pupils enrolled	as percentage of pupils enrolled	as percentage of pupils enrolled	as percentage of pupils enrolled
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
United States total..	9,900,963	45	1,027,654	33
Regions 2/:				
Northeast.....	1,836,470	36	134,924	26
Southeast.....	3,157,126	53	302,240	40
Midwest.....	2,025,817	45	260,417	40
Southwest.....	1,577,734	50	209,723	31
West.....	1,291,800	37	120,667	24
Population density:				
Counties less than 100,000.....	6,017,813	52	486,445	46
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	2,570,609	45	326,466	31
21 largest metrop. areas.....	1,299,672	27	208,139	20
Size of school:				
Under 250 pupils...	1,608,078	64	230,074	53
250-499 pupils.....	3,174,650	53	228,977	43
500 or more pupils..	5,093,034	37	561,365	26
Grades taught:				
Elementary.....	5,467,781	49	632,190	39
Junior and senior high.....	1,776,928	32	232,023	21
Other 3/.....	2,647,455	49	158,468	42

See footnotes to table 5.



Table 8.--Average number of lunches served free daily and ratio of average number of free lunches daily to pupils enrolled, by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service			
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program		Other plate lunches	
	Average number of free lunches daily	Average free lunches daily as percentage of pupils enrolled	Average number of free lunches daily	Average free lunches daily as percentage of pupils enrolled
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
United States total.....	650,860	3	73,628	2
Regions 2/:				
Northeast.....	129,100	3	20,448	3
Southeast.....	283,912	5	22,642	3
Midwest.....	85,888	2	9,359	1
Southwest.....	99,902	3	15,915	2
West.....	51,937	1	5,557	1
Population density:				
Counties less than 100,000...	437,457	4	32,391	3
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	121,374	2	18,572	2
21 largest metrop. areas.....	91,128	2	22,227	2
Size of school:				
Under 250 pupils.....	118,449	5	20,497	5
250-499 pupils.....	202,582	3	12,795	2
500 or more pupils.....	328,196	2	39,849	2
Grades taught:				
Elementary.....	399,558	4	53,010	3
Junior and senior high.....	76,236	1	10,846	1
Other 3/.....	174,700	3	9,603	3

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 9.--Average daily participation (number of lunches served daily) in feeding programs and ratio of average daily participation to pupils enrolled by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, type of lunch service, and whether in Special Milk Program, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service												
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program						Other plate lunches						
	In Special Milk Program			Not in Special Milk Program			In Special Milk Program			Not in Special Milk Program			
	Number	Percent	Average daily participation	Average daily participation	Average daily participation	Average daily participation	Number	Percent	Average daily participation	Average daily participation	Average daily participation	Number	Percent
United States total.....	8,720,324	44.5	1,230,442	50.0	817,224	32.9	215,694	34.5					
Regions 2/:													
Northeast.....	1,625,626	36.4	247,573	41.5	122,543	26.3	12,405	26.5					
Southeast.....	2,759,908	53.5	411,378	53.3	268,801	40.4	27,638	31.5					
Midwest.....	1,945,170	45.4	126,735	53.6	196,245	38.4	64,050	45.0					
Southwest.....	1,251,342	50.5	334,041	50.1	126,979	29.6	83,792	33.1					
West.....	1,138,304	35.5	153,569	52.8	92,858	22.4	29,637	31.3					
Population density:													
Counties less than 100,000.....	5,207,535	51.7	877,326	55.4	374,479	44.6	112,088	53.5					
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	2,272,074	45.6	318,033	46.3	295,294	31.6	35,925	33.8					
21 largest metrop. areas.....	1,240,716	27.3	81,013	27.7	147,476	20.7	65,902	21.3					
Size of school:													
Under 250 pupils.....	1,302,036	63.8	323,614	68.3	176,625	52.1	55,203	56.2					
250-499 pupils.....	2,785,523	52.8	420,201	54.9	197,975	43.6	31,854	41.9					
500 or more pupils.....	4,632,765	37.7	536,749	40.6	442,624	26.2	123,640	27.4					
Grades taught:													
Elementary.....	4,825,817	48.6	697,045	54.9	488,492	37.8	151,424	46.8					
Junior and senior high.....	1,602,326	32.2	201,266	35.9	182,562	20.8	50,938	21.9					
Other 3/.....	2,292,181	49.0	382,107	52.1	145,795	46.9	15,086	22.1					

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 10.--Average price paid by students for one plate lunch by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service		Average
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program	Other plate lunches	
	Cents	Cents	Cents
United States total.....	24.2	25.3	24.3
Regions <u>2/</u> :			
Northeast.....	25.9	23.0	25.7
Southeast.....	23.1	23.7	23.1
Midwest.....	25.7	27.7	26.0
Southwest.....	21.8	23.3	22.0
West.....	24.9	29.0	25.3
Population density:			
Counties less than 100,000.....	23.1	22.0	23.1
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	25.0	26.7	25.2
21 largest metrop. areas.....	27.4	30.7	27.8
Size of school:			
Under 250 pupils.....	22.8	24.1	22.9
250-499 pupils.....	23.9	23.5	23.9
500 or more pupils.....	24.9	26.4	25.0
Grades taught:			
Elementary.....	23.8	24.0	23.8
Junior and senior high.:	27.5	29.9	27.8
Other <u>3/</u> .....	22.8	19.1	22.6

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 11.--Average daily participation and ratio of average daily participation to pupils enrolled, National School Lunch Program, by average price paid by pupils for one plate lunch and by grades taught, United States, March 1957 <sup>1/</sup>

Price of lunch <sup>2/</sup>	Schools offering complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program															
	Number of schools				Pupil enrollment				Average daily participation (Average lunches daily)				Average daily participation as percentage of pupils enrolled in participating schools			
	Number	Elementary grades	Secondary grades	Combination grades	Total	Elementary grades	Secondary grades	Combination grades	Total	Elementary grades	Secondary grades	Combination grades	Total	Elementary grades	Secondary grades	Combination grades
5 cents.....	170	97	---	73	52,790	19,376	---	33,414	36,479	14,349	---	23,236	69	74	---	70
10 cents.....	877	585	24	268	213,087	107,238	7,507	98,342	124,806	51,517	4,872	68,174	59	48	65	69
15 cents.....	2,584	1,755	49	780	694,802	382,400	12,990	299,412	332,023	194,217	6,431	131,053	48	51	50	44
20 cents.....	13,233	9,066	731	3,436	4,575,905	2,643,600	328,635	1,598,670	2,173,734	1,263,487	137,075	813,887	48	48	42	51
25 cents.....	23,041	14,828	2,900	5,313	9,631,861	5,466,945	1,744,050	2,420,866	4,342,508	2,570,354	643,113	1,129,041	45	47	37	47
30 cents.....	7,920	4,411	2,583	926	4,660,721	1,984,385	2,187,868	488,468	1,586,380	757,941	655,565	172,874	34	38	30	35
35 cents.....	1,438	414	902	122	1,186,854	169,850	876,766	140,238	259,814	38,665	194,907	26,242	22	23	22	19
40 cents.....	73	24	49	---	44,942	15,111	29,831	---	6,917	3,666	3,251	---	15	24	11	---

<sup>1/</sup> The data are subject to sampling variance.

<sup>2/</sup> Data for schools having lunch prices different from those listed are not included in this table. Schools omitted comprise about 5 percent of all public schools in the National School Lunch Program in the United States. Free lunches are not included in this table.

Table 12.--Average number of minutes allowed students for lunch, by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service				Average
	Complete plate : lunch under : National School : Lunch Program :	Other : plate : lunches :	A la : carte : only :	None :	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
United States total....:	37	39	42	50	43
Regions <u>2/</u> :					
Northeast.....:	36	41	42	54	45
Southeast.....:	33	39	36	50	38
Midwest.....:	37	37	38	49	44
Southwest.....:	40	39	45	52	43
West.....:	39	40	47	47	42
Population density:					
Counties less					
than 100,000.....:	36	38	43	49	42
Other counties and					
metrop. areas over					
100,000 but less					
than 700,000.....:	35	37	43	53	42
21 largest metrop.					
areas.....:	39	41	38	54	45
Size of school:					
Under 250 pupils.....:	36	40	40	49	44
250-499 pupils.....:	36	40	39	54	41
500 or more pupils...:	38	36	43	54	40
Grades taught:					
Elementary.....:	36	40	42	50	44
Junior and senior					
high.....:	38	40	41	52	41
Other <u>3/</u> .....:	36	29	41	51	38

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 13---Percentage distribution of schools having lunch service by usual eating place of faculty, region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service														Total						
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program							Other plate lunches							A la carte only		Total				
	In-home-rooms with students lunch room	At table with students lunch room	At separate tables in lunch room	At separate tables in lunch room	In home-rooms with students lunch room	At table with students lunch room	At separate tables in lunch room	Total	In home-rooms with students lunch room	At table with students lunch room	At separate tables in lunch room	Other	Total	In home-rooms with students lunch room	At table with students lunch room	At separate tables in lunch room	Other	Total			
United States total.....	9.2	53.0	20.8	17.0	100.0	11.8	45.9	20.8	21.5	100.0	22.9	10.4	29.2	37.5	100.0	9.8	51.4	20.9	17.9	100.0	
Regions 2/:																					
Northeast.....	15.9	29.4	23.9	30.3	100.0	21.3	26.1	21.0	31.6	100.0	15.4	7.7	23.1	53.8	100.0	16.4	28.5	23.6	31.5	100.0	
Southeast.....	5.5	74.5	15.8	4.2	100.0	12.5	57.3	23.2	7.0	100.0	43.8	---	34.3	21.9	100.0	6.6	72.0	16.7	4.7	100.0	
Midwest.....	11.3	50.8	24.6	13.3	100.0	13.0	35.9	19.1	27.0	100.0	14.3	57.1	---	28.6	100.0	12.4	48.7	23.5	15.4	100.0	
Southwest.....	5.0	69.0	18.3	7.7	100.0	1.5	72.3	18.5	7.7	100.0	30.0	---	60.0	10.0	100.0	5.1	67.9	19.3	7.7	100.0	
West.....	8.8	26.3	22.6	42.3	100.0	3.2	22.6	25.3	43.4	100.0	11.1	---	22.2	66.7	100.0	8.3	25.2	22.9	43.6	100.0	
Population density:																					
Counties less than 100,000.....	9.7	63.1	18.4	8.8	100.0	16.0	55.2	14.7	14.1	100.0	35.7	21.4	14.3	28.6	100.0	10.5	62.0	18.0	9.5	100.0	
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	10.0	42.1	26.3	21.6	100.0	8.5	45.0	28.4	18.1	100.0	23.8	4.8	47.6	23.8	100.0	10.4	40.9	27.4	21.3	100.0	
21 largest metrop. areas.....	5.8	17.0	24.5	52.7	100.0	3.6	19.6	30.4	46.4	100.0	7.7	7.7	15.4	69.2	100.0	5.5	17.1	25.1	52.3	100.0	
Size of school:																					
Under 250 pupils.....	15.9	65.2	12.7	6.1	100.0	22.3	56.2	9.2	12.3	100.0	60.0	20.0	10.0	10.0	100.0	17.2	63.5	12.2	7.0	100.0	
250-499 pupils.....	7.3	52.1	22.4	18.2	100.0	3.4	42.4	27.1	27.1	100.0	20.0	---	20.0	60.0	100.0	7.0	50.9	22.8	19.2	100.0	
500 or more pupils.....	3.0	38.9	29.1	29.1	100.0	2.2	33.3	33.3	31.1	100.0	12.1	9.1	36.4	42.4	100.0	3.3	37.0	29.9	29.9	100.0	
Grades taught:																					
Elementary.....	11.9	55.4	15.9	16.8	100.0	15.3	51.2	16.7	16.7	100.0	44.4	11.1	16.7	27.8	100.0	12.7	54.4	16.0	16.9	100.0	
Junior and senior high.....	2.9	23.8	37.9	35.4	100.0	---	15.2	41.3	43.5	100.0	3.8	11.5	42.3	42.3	100.0	2.6	21.9	38.6	36.8	100.0	
Other 3/.....	5.8	65.1	23.5	5.6	100.0	6.7	56.7	16.7	20.0	100.0	50.0	---	---	50.0	100.0	6.2	64.1	22.9	6.8	100.0	

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 14.--Percentage distribution of schools by relative number of students transported to and from school by bus, region, population density, size of school, grades taught and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service, by number of students transported by bus																				
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program				Other plate lunches				A la carte only				Total								
	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.	Pet.							
United States total.....	16.9	25.3	57.8	100.0	26.5	28.7	44.8	100.0	37.3	43.9	18.8	100.0	58.0	16.5	25.5	100.0	35.4	21.9	42.7	100.0	
Regions 2/:																					
Northeast.....	16.6	27.7	55.7	100.0	29.0	39.5	31.5	100.0	23.1	46.2	30.7	100.0	49.5	21.7	28.8	100.0	32.4	25.8	41.8	100.0	
Southeast.....	13.4	18.1	63.5	100.0	25.0	25.1	49.9	100.0	21.9	55.7	22.4	100.0	38.5	19.5	42.0	100.0	20.1	19.3	60.6	100.0	
Midwest.....	14.8	25.6	59.6	100.0	25.8	23.6	50.6	100.0	71.2	28.8	---	100.0	63.0	13.2	18.8	100.0	47.6	18.1	34.3	100.0	
Southwest.....	22.3	27.8	49.9	100.0	18.4	30.7	50.9	100.0	50.0	29.9	20.1	100.0	55.0	17.2	27.8	100.0	31.6	25.2	43.2	100.0	
West.....	21.5	32.5	46.0	100.0	45.2	32.2	22.6	100.0	32.7	55.9	11.4	100.0	49.4	17.5	33.1	100.0	32.9	27.7	39.4	100.0	
Population density:																					
Counties less than 100,000.....	11.9	21.9	66.2	100.0	20.3	22.1	57.1	100.0	42.5	35.8	21.7	100.0	58.7	14.7	26.6	100.0	33.8	18.7	47.5	100.0	
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	24.7	30.7	44.6	100.0	35.0	35.0	30.0	100.0	33.3	38.1	28.6	100.0	49.8	22.0	28.2	100.0	34.4	28.2	37.4	100.0	
21 largest metrop. areas.....	31.1	34.6	34.3	100.0	33.9	41.0	25.1	100.0	38.2	61.8	---	100.0	63.5	19.9	16.6	100.0	44.8	29.8	25.4	100.0	
Size of school:																					
Under 250 pupils.....	14.2	15.5	70.3	100.0	28.5	13.3	57.7	100.0	60.1	19.7	20.2	100.0	60.2	13.2	26.6	100.0	43.1	14.0	42.9	100.0	
250-499 pupils.....	15.1	26.9	58.0	100.0	22.0	40.7	37.3	100.0	40.2	40.2	19.6	100.0	49.6	30.4	20.0	100.0	24.4	28.6	47.0	100.0	
500 or more pupils.....	22.1	35.7	42.2	100.0	26.6	42.3	31.1	100.0	30.0	51.7	18.3	100.0	50.0	26.1	23.9	100.0	27.0	35.5	37.5	100.0	
Grades taught:																					
Elementary.....	21.3	25.4	53.3	100.0	32.0	25.1	42.9	100.0	55.4	33.7	10.9	100.0	60.7	15.1	24.2	100.0	42.7	20.1	37.2	100.0	
Junior and senior high.....	15.4	32.5	51.1	100.0	17.4	50.1	32.5	100.0	30.5	50.2	19.3	100.0	21.0	35.5	40.5	100.0	17.9	36.4	45.7	100.0	
Other 3/.....	5.6	19.5	74.9	100.0	3.3	20.0	76.7	100.0	---	49.0	51.0	100.0	25.7	28.8	42.5	100.0	8.1	20.8	71.1	100.0	

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 15.--Number and percentage of schools providing advance information on lunch menus by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service						Total
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program	Other plate lunches	A la carte only	Number	Percent	Number	
United States total.....	32,877	3,973	436	37.5	37,286	61.6	
Regions 2/:							
Northeast.....	7,775	634	73	23.1	8,482	74.7	
Southeast.....	8,140	706	48	22.2	8,894	57.6	
Midwest.....	7,823	1,219	121	71.4	9,163	61.0	
Southwest.....	4,899	951	97	40.0	5,947	54.0	
West.....	4,240	463	97	44.4	4,800	62.7	
Population density:							
Counties less than 100,000.....	19,911	2,218	169	50.0	22,298	56.3	
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	7,531	877	194	38.1	8,602	69.1	
21 largest metrop. areas.....	5,435	878	73	23.1	6,386	75.7	
Size of school:							
Under 250 pupils.....	9,920	1,586	120	50.0	11,626	49.8	
250-499 pupils.....	11,186	950	--	--	12,136	67.5	
500 or more pupils.....	11,771	1,437	316	39.4	13,524	70.5	
Grades taught:							
Elementary.....	20,690	2,828	169	38.9	23,687	61.4	
Junior and senior high.....	5,217	683	219	34.6	6,119	65.5	
Other 3/.....	6,970	462	48	50.0	7,480	59.6	

See footnotes to table 5.



Table 16.---Percentage distribution of schools having lunch service by type of lunchroom sponsor, region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, [March 1957 1/]

Item	Percentage of schools offering lunch service, by type of sponsor															
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program				Other plate lunches				A la carte only				Total			
	School	Teachers	Assoc.	Other	Total	School	Teachers	Assoc.	Other	Total	School	Teachers	Assoc.	Other	Total	
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
United States total.....	89.4	4.1	6.5	100.0	83.6	6.4	10.0	100.0	81.1	6.2	12.7	100.0	88.6	4.4	7.0	100.0
Regions 2/:																
Northeast.....	84.6	3.4	12.0	100.0	81.5	5.3	13.2	100.0	92.4	---	7.6	100.0	84.6	3.4	12.0	100.0
Southeast.....	86.5	6.7	6.8	100.0	80.4	5.3	14.3	100.0	77.6	11.0	11.4	100.0	85.8	6.6	7.6	100.0
Midwest.....	93.3	4.4	2.3	100.0	79.8	10.1	10.1	100.0	71.2	---	28.8	100.0	91.1	5.2	3.7	100.0
Southwest.....	94.5	0.8	7.7	100.0	90.8	4.6	4.6	100.0	79.9	9.8	10.3	100.0	91.2	1.5	7.3	100.0
West.....	92.3	3.7	4.0	100.0	87.1	3.2	5.7	100.0	77.3	11.4	11.3	100.0	91.4	3.8	4.5	100.0
Population density:																
Countries less than 100,000:	89.0	5.5	5.5	100.0	82.2	6.1	11.7	100.0	71.0	---	29.0	100.0	88.2	5.5	6.3	100.0
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	80.7	1.6	7.7	100.0	83.4	10.0	6.6	100.0	81.0	14.3	4.7	100.0	89.5	3.1	7.4	100.0
21 largest metrop. areas.....	88.8	.7	10.5	100.0	87.6	3.5	8.9	100.0	92.1	---	7.9	100.0	88.7	1.2	10.1	100.0
Size of school:																
Under 250 pupils.....	84.8	8.3	6.9	100.0	76.2	10.7	13.1	100.0	59.3	---	40.7	100.0	83.4	8.6	8.0	100.0
250-499 pupils.....	93.0	2.5	4.5	100.0	91.7	3.3	5.0	100.0	79.5	---	20.5	100.0	92.8	2.6	4.6	100.0
500 or more pupils.....	91.3	.4	8.3	100.0	88.9	2.2	8.9	100.0	87.9	9.1	3.0	100.0	90.9	1.0	8.1	100.0
Grades taught:																
Elementary.....	88.2	4.9	6.9	100.0	81.8	7.9	10.3	100.0	60.6	11.2	28.2	100.0	87.0	5.4	7.6	100.0
Junior and senior high.....	91.0	1.3	7.7	100.0	91.3	2.1	6.6	100.0	92.4	3.8	3.8	100.0	91.1	1.6	7.3	100.0
Other 3/.....	91.7	3.5	4.8	100.0	83.4	3.3	13.3	100.0	100.0	---	---	100.0	91.3	3.5	5.2	100.0

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 17 ---Percentage distribution of schools by relative number of students going home for lunch, region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service, by proportion of students going home for lunch												Total								
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program				Other plate lunches				A la carte only				None		Total	Pet.	Pet.				
	Pet.	Pct.	Pct.	Pet.	Pet.	Pct.	Pct.	Pet.	Pet.	Pct.	Pct.	Pet.	Pct.	Pct.				Pct.	Pct.		
Less than half of the students:																					
More than half of the students:																					
None of the students:																					
Student-teacher ratio:																					
Grade taught:																					
Population density:																					
Size of school:																					
Grades taught:																					
Elementary:																					
Junior and senior high:																					
Other 3/:																					
United States total.....	23.6	43.6	27.8	100.0	25.4	45.6	29.0	100.0	27.1	45.7	27.2	100.0	39.2	23.8	37.0	100.0	30.5	37.7	31.8	100.0	
Regions 2/:																					
Northeast.....	27.0	48.4	24.6	100.0	18.4	36.9	44.7	100.0	39.7	30.7	33.6	100.0	17.0	24.5	53.5	100.0	22.1	36.6	41.3	100.0	
Southeast.....	33.9	49.2	16.9	100.0	42.8	41.1	16.1	100.0	33.3	55.7	11.0	100.0	38.5	36.9	24.6	100.0	35.6	45.3	18.6	100.0	
Midwest.....	19.2	47.7	33.1	100.0	26.9	46.1	27.0	100.0	42.9	28.3	23.8	100.0	49.3	20.0	30.7	100.0	37.8	30.9	31.3	100.0	
Southwest.....	15.6	47.5	36.9	100.0	18.5	46.2	35.3	100.0	20.1	59.8	20.1	100.0	42.2	20.0	37.8	100.0	23.6	39.7	36.7	100.0	
West.....	16.4	51.1	32.5	100.0	13.0	61.3	25.7	100.0	11.4	55.0	33.6	100.0	33.8	31.9	34.3	100.0	22.1	45.2	32.7	100.0	
Population density:																					
Counties less than 100,000, other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000, 21 largest metrop. areas.....	27.7	43.2	29.1	100.0	26.7	45.0	28.3	100.0	19.0	52.1	23.9	100.0	22.7	24.5	52.8	100.0	25.6	37.1	37.3	100.0	
Size of school:																					
Under 250 pupils, 250-499 pupils, 500 or more pupils.....	31.0	42.3	26.7	100.0	34.6	35.4	30.0	100.0	40.3	49.8	9.9	100.0	47.2	21.4	31.4	100.0	41.1	29.3	29.6	100.0	
Grades taught:																					
Elementary, Junior and senior high, Other 3/.....	25.5	44.0	30.5	100.0	20.2	47.8	32.0	100.0	27.7	38.6	33.7	100.0	41.1	22.0	36.9	100.0	33.3	32.8	33.9	100.0	
Population density:																					
Counties less than 100,000, other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000, 21 largest metrop. areas.....	29.6	50.8	19.6	100.0	41.2	41.4	17.4	100.0	23.1	53.8	23.1	100.0	11.5	46.8	41.7	100.0	27.3	49.3	23.4	100.0	
Size of school:																					
Under 250 pupils, 250-499 pupils, 500 or more pupils.....	14.3	60.3	25.4	100.0	36.7	36.9	26.4	100.0	50.5	24.7	24.8	100.0	22.7	42.5	34.8	100.0	16.7	56.8	26.5	100.0	

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 18.--Percentage distribution of schools by relative number of students patronizing commercial lunch establishments near school, regions, population density, size of school, grades taught and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service, by proportion of students patronizing commercial lunch establishments																				
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program				Other plate lunches				A la carte only				None								
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.			
United States total.....	72.8	22.6	4.6	100.0	76.4	13.6	5.0	100.0	56.2	39.6	4.2	100.0	87.6	11.6	0.8	100.0	79.2	17.8	3.0	100.0	
Regions 2/:																					
Northeast.....	73.7	20.7	5.5	100.0	31.6	15.8	2.6	100.0	33.5	61.5	---	100.0	80.8	18.4	.8	100.0	76.8	20.1	3.1	100.0	
Southeast.....	83.3	12.7	4.0	100.0	87.5	7.1	5.4	100.0	44.4	33.4	22.2	100.0	85.6	9.8	4.6	100.0	83.7	11.8	4.5	100.0	
Midwest.....	64.6	31.6	3.3	100.0	69.7	24.7	5.6	100.0	71.4	28.6	---	100.0	90.3	9.5	.2	100.0	80.3	17.9	1.8	100.0	
Southwest.....	63.1	30.8	6.1	100.0	67.7	27.7	4.6	100.0	60.0	40.0	---	100.0	90.6	8.8	.6	100.0	71.4	24.4	4.2	100.0	
West.....	73.1	17.9	4.0	100.0	87.0	6.5	6.5	100.0	77.8	22.2	---	100.0	88.6	11.4	---	100.0	82.3	15.0	2.7	100.0	
Population density:																					
Counties less than 100,000.....	70.0	25.1	4.9	100.0	76.7	19.0	4.3	100.0	57.1	28.6	14.3	100.0	90.0	9.0	1.0	100.0	79.4	17.5	3.1	100.0	
Other counties and metro. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	79.8	16.5	3.7	100.0	75.0	16.7	8.3	100.0	42.9	57.1	---	100.0	83.5	16.5	---	100.0	79.7	17.6	2.7	100.0	
21 largest metro. areas.....	76.5	18.8	4.7	100.0	76.8	19.6	3.6	100.0	76.9	23.1	---	100.0	78.8	20.4	.8	100.0	77.5	19.6	2.9	100.0	
Size of school:																					
Under 250 pupils.....	83.0	11.8	5.2	100.0	82.3	13.1	4.6	100.0	60.0	20.0	20.0	100.0	92.4	6.7	.9	100.0	88.6	8.8	2.6	100.0	
251-499 pupils.....	68.5	27.7	3.8	100.0	71.2	25.4	3.4	100.0	80.0	20.0	---	100.0	74.4	24.3	.8	100.0	70.3	26.8	2.9	100.0	
500 or more pupils.....	64.5	30.7	4.8	100.0	71.1	22.2	6.7	100.0	51.4	43.6	---	100.0	60.1	39.9	---	100.0	64.0	31.9	4.1	100.0	
Grades taught:																					
Elementary.....	84.1	12.2	3.7	100.0	82.8	14.2	3.0	100.0	66.7	22.2	11.1	100.0	90.2	9.1	.7	100.0	87.1	10.7	2.2	100.0	
Junior and senior high.....	54.7	32.5	5.8	100.0	58.7	30.4	10.9	100.0	46.2	53.8	---	100.0	49.4	48.1	2.5	100.0	53.7	40.9	5.4	100.0	
Other 3/.....	52.4	41.2	6.4	100.0	60.0	30.0	10.0	100.0	75.0	25.0	---	100.0	65.2	33.3	1.5	100.0	54.4	32.6	6.0	100.0	

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 19.—Percentage distribution of schools by relative number of students carrying lunches, regions, population density, size of school, grades taught and type of lunch service March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service, by proportion of students carrying lunches												Total								
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program				Other plate lunches				A la carte only				None								
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.			
United States total.....	11.8	37.9	50.3	100.0	17.9	34.1	48.0	100.0	2.1	47.9	50.0	100.0	9.3	29.5	61.2	100.0	11.0	34.1	54.8	100.0	
Regions 2/:																					
Northeast.....	6.7	36.4	56.9	100.0	18.4	47.4	34.2	100.0	---	53.8	46.2	100.0	18.3	42.2	39.5	100.0	12.5	39.8	47.7	100.0	
Southeast.....	8.6	25.1	66.3	100.0	7.2	21.4	71.4	100.0	---	55.7	44.3	100.0	3.6	26.7	69.7	100.0	7.2	25.6	67.2	100.0	
Midwest.....	15.6	44.2	40.2	100.0	23.6	34.9	41.5	100.0	---	28.2	71.8	100.0	7.4	24.2	68.4	100.0	11.0	31.6	57.4	100.0	
Southwest.....	21.8	45.0	33.2	100.0	24.6	38.6	36.8	100.0	---	49.6	50.4	100.0	7.8	32.2	60.0	100.0	17.7	40.8	41.5	100.0	
West.....	5.5	44.5	50.0	100.0	6.5	29.0	64.5	100.0	10.9	45.0	44.1	100.0	7.2	28.3	64.5	100.0	6.2	37.9	55.8	100.0	
Population density:																					
Counties less than 100,000.....	15.4	36.8	47.8	100.0	25.2	31.3	43.5	100.0	7.0	49.9	43.1	100.0	6.0	23.7	70.3	100.0	11.6	30.6	57.8	100.0	
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	5.8	39.8	54.4	100.0	11.6	36.7	51.7	100.0	---	52.4	47.6	100.0	16.5	39.9	43.6	100.0	9.8	39.9	50.3	100.0	
21 largest metrop. areas.....	2.6	40.4	57.0	100.0	3.5	39.4	57.1	100.0	---	38.5	61.5	100.0	19.9	50.2	29.9	100.0	9.7	44.3	46.0	100.0	
Size of school:																					
Under 250 pupils.....	21.9	25.2	52.9	100.0	30.3	25.4	43.8	100.0	9.9	29.6	60.5	100.0	7.4	22.5	70.1	100.0	13.5	23.6	62.9	100.0	
250-499 pupils.....	6.8	43.8	49.4	100.0	6.8	45.9	47.3	100.0	---	59.8	40.2	100.0	20.8	52.8	26.4	100.0	10.3	46.3	43.4	100.0	
500 or more pupils.....	4.5	47.4	48.1	100.0	6.7	38.9	54.4	100.0	---	51.6	48.4	100.0	8.7	62.3	29.0	100.0	5.2	49.0	45.8	100.0	
Grades taught:																					
Elementary.....	13.0	33.7	53.3	100.0	18.7	31.6	49.7	100.0	5.5	49.9	44.6	100.0	9.5	28.0	62.5	100.0	11.5	30.7	57.8	100.0	
Junior and senior high.....	6.4	42.8	50.8	100.0	8.7	41.4	43.9	100.0	---	50.2	49.8	100.0	10.2	50.5	39.3	100.0	6.9	44.4	48.7	100.0	
Other 3/.....	11.9	46.5	41.6	100.0	26.7	39.9	33.4	100.0	---	24.5	75.5	100.0	3.0	43.9	53.1	100.0	11.5	45.8	42.7	100.0	

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 20.--Seating capacity of lunchrooms as a percentage of total enrollment in schools with lunchrooms, by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service				Total
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program	Other plate lunches	A la carte only	Percent	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
United States total.....	34.1	31.5	24.9	33.5	33.5
Regions 2/:					
Northeast.....	34.4	28.4	21.6	33.2	33.2
Southeast.....	31.1	25.2	24.4	30.3	30.3
Midwest.....	34.8	41.6	27.9	35.5	35.5
Southwest.....	37.4	35.9	36.6	37.2	37.2
West.....	34.9	26.3	17.8	32.9	32.9
Population density:					
Counties less than 100,000.....	35.6	39.1	27.1	35.8	35.8
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	33.2	25.8	28.1	31.8	31.8
21 largest metrop. areas.....	31.4	30.1	20.7	30.5	30.5
Size of school:					
Under 250 pupils.....	62.8	35.3	49.3	58.9	58.9
250-499 pupils.....	40.0	37.4	30.1	39.7	39.7
500 or more pupils.....	26.6	29.4	24.5	26.8	26.8
Grades taught:					
Elementary.....	38.7	33.9	25.9	38.0	38.0
Junior and senior high.....	31.2	29.9	22.8	30.2	30.2
Other 3/.....	27.9	25.7	57.1	28.0	28.0

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 21.--Percentage distribution of schools by location of lunchroom service, region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957

Item	Schools offering lunch service, by location of lunchroom												Total								
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program						Other plate lunches						A la carte only		Total						
	In	:sepa-:rate	:sepa-:rate	In	:sepa-:rate	:sepa-:rate	In	:sepa-:rate	:sepa-:rate	In	:sepa-:rate	:sepa-:rate	In	:sepa-:rate	:sepa-:rate	In	:sepa-:rate	:sepa-:rate			
United States total.....	76.3	16.3	1.5	5.9	100.0	76.0	14.3	1.1	8.6	100.0	64.6	12.5	---	22.9	100.0	76.1	15.9	1.4	6.6	100.0	
Regions 2/:																					
Northeast.....	82.7	2.4	1.9	13.0	100.0	84.2	7.9	---	7.9	100.0	92.3	---	---	7.7	100.0	83.1	2.8	1.7	12.4	100.0	
Southeast.....	76.1	21.5	0.5	1.9	100.0	75.0	17.9	---	7.1	100.0	21.9	11.0	---	67.1	100.0	75.2	21.0	0.5	3.3	100.0	
Midwest.....	85.0	4.0	3.1	7.9	100.0	78.7	3.4	1.1	16.8	100.0	71.2	---	---	23.8	100.0	83.9	3.9	2.8	9.4	100.0	
Southwest.....	65.8	32.6	1.1	0.5	100.0	73.9	21.5	3.1	1.5	100.0	80.0	10.0	---	10.0	100.0	67.3	30.5	1.3	0.9	100.0	
West.....	65.3	27.0	.4	7.3	100.0	64.6	32.2	---	3.2	100.0	44.5	44.5	---	11.0	100.0	64.7	28.0	.3	7.0	100.0	
Population density:																					
Countries less than 100,000 but other countries and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	75.1	17.8	1.6	5.5	100.0	73.7	14.1	1.8	10.4	100.0	56.9	---	---	43.1	100.0	74.8	17.3	1.6	6.3	100.0	
21 largest metrop. areas.....	79.1	12.1	.4	8.4	100.0	81.7	10.0	---	8.3	100.0	66.9	9.4	---	23.7	100.0	78.9	11.7	.4	9.0	100.0	
Size of school:																					
Under 250 pupils.....	72.8	15.5	2.0	9.7	100.0	73.9	7.7	1.5	16.9	100.0	49.8	---	---	50.2	100.0	72.7	14.3	1.9	11.1	100.0	
250-499 pupils.....	77.6	15.4	1.8	5.2	100.0	88.2	10.1	---	1.7	100.0	80.3	---	---	19.7	100.0	78.5	14.9	1.6	5.0	100.0	
500 or more pupils.....	79.4	17.9	.6	2.1	100.0	71.1	26.7	1.1	1.1	100.0	66.7	18.1	---	15.2	100.0	77.9	19.0	.6	2.5	100.0	
Grades taught:																					
Elementary.....	76.0	14.4	1.7	7.9	100.0	74.9	13.3	1.0	10.8	100.0	61.3	---	---	38.7	100.0	75.7	14.1	1.6	8.6	100.0	
Junior and senior high.....	81.7	12.2	1.6	4.5	100.0	82.7	10.7	2.2	4.4	100.0	76.7	23.1	---	0.2	100.0	81.4	12.8	1.6	4.2	100.0	
Other 3/.....	73.8	23.9	.8	1.5	100.0	73.2	26.8	---	---	100.0	1.0	---	---	99.0	100.0	73.2	23.9	.8	2.1	100.0	

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 22.--Average age in years of kitchen and average number of years since last major kitchen modernization by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service											
	Complete plate lunch			Other plate lunches			A la carte only			None		
	Years	Age of kitchen	Years since modernization	Years	Age of kitchen	Years since modernization	Years	Age of kitchen	Years since modernization	Years	Age of kitchen	Years since modernization
United States total.....	10.4	6.5	12.4	7.8	19.3	11.4	13.7	9.8	10.8	6.8		
Regions 2/:												
Northeast.....	11.5	7.7	16.9	11.9	21.8	14.8	13.8	10.6	12.4	8.4		
Southeast.....	10.1	6.1	11.0	7.0	7.7	7.7	24.0	24.0	10.2	6.3		
Midwest.....	11.0	6.0	10.8	6.6	18.3	14.3	13.5	9.5	11.2	6.4		
Southwest.....	9.4	5.4	10.7	5.8	21.1	8.6	13.0	5.3	9.9	5.5		
West.....	9.7	6.2	17.4	9.4	18.6	8.4	11.9	9.7	10.6	6.7		
Population density:												
Counties less than 100,000...	10.0	5.9	10.7	6.7	21.0	17.5	12.0	8.6	10.2	6.4		
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	10.4	6.4	13.8	7.3	16.2	8.5	15.3	13.9	11.1	6.5		
21 largest metrop. areas....	12.3	8.2	16.2	10.8	23.0	12.8	15.3	9.6	13.4	8.9		
Size of school:												
Under 250 pupils.....	10.5	5.8	11.1	5.8	19.5	4.5	10.3	6.9	10.6	5.9		
250-499 pupils.....	9.9	6.2	13.0	10.0	24.3	14.3	17.7	13.6	10.6	7.1		
500 or more pupils.....	10.7	6.7	13.5	7.9	18.6	11.6	15.2	10.1	11.4	7.1		
Grades taught:												
Elementary.....	9.6	6.0	12.1	7.6	23.6	9.4	13.5	9.6	10.1	6.3		
Junior and senior high.....	12.4	7.8	15.9	10.6	17.9	11.2	14.4	12.0	13.2	8.2		
Other 3/.....	11.2	6.2	11.0	5.8	25.0	25.0	15.0	13.6	11.2	6.2		

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 23.--Average age of lunchrooms and average number of years since last major lunchroom modernization, by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service													
	Complete plate lunch: under National School: Lunch Program			Other plate lunches			A la carte only			None				
	Years	Years since modernization	Age of lunch-room	Years	Years since modernization	Age of lunch-room	Years	Years since modernization	Age of lunch-room	Years	Years since modernization	Age of lunch-room	Years	Years since modernization
United States total.....	11.5	7.2	12.5	8.3	18.6	13.3	17.0	14.2	12.0	7.5				
Regions 2/:														
Northeast.....	12.6	8.5	16.3	13.2	21.0	21.0	17.3	12.6	13.5	9.5				
Southeast.....	10.6	6.5	10.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	13.3	18.3	10.6	6.7				
Midwest.....	13.0	7.2	10.8	6.8	18.3	14.3	16.4	14.1	13.1	7.9				
Southwest.....	10.2	5.9	11.4	6.6	21.1	11.0	21.0	17.1	11.0	5.5				
West.....	10.7	6.7	13.0	11.2	16.0	6.8	13.0	11.5	11.6	7.3				
Population density:														
Counties less than 100,000.....	11.1	6.5	11.3	7.1	21.0	17.5	16.8	15.3	11.4	7.1				
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	11.5	7.2	13.1	9.4	15.6	13.0	16.1	13.4	12.1	8.1				
21 largest metrop. areas.....	13.2	8.8	16.0	10.7	21.5	14.3	18.0	12.9	14.4	9.6				
Size of school:														
Under 250 pupils.....	11.6	6.8	11.0	6.5	19.5	15.0	16.1	13.4	12.0	7.1				
250-499 pupils.....	11.0	6.5	13.9	11.6	24.3	14.3	13.8	15.7	11.7	7.3				
500 or more pupils.....	11.7	7.8	13.5	8.4	17.7	13.6	16.1	10.7	12.2	8.1				
Grades taught:														
Elementary.....	10.6	6.2	12.2	7.6	23.6	12.4	17.1	13.2	11.3	7.1				
Junior and senior high.....	13.6	9.1	16.9	14.1	16.9	14.1	13.8	12.5	14.2	10.1				
Other 3/.....	12.2	7.2	10.7	5.6	25.0	25.0	19.7	19.7	12.1	7.1				

See footnotes to table 5.



Table 24.--Percentage distribution of schools having lunch service by proportion of cost paid by local groups, region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957

Item	Schools offering lunch service, by proportion of cost paid by local groups															
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program				Other plate lunches				A la carte only							
	1/4 total cost	Less than 1/4 total cost	No contribution	Total	1/4 total cost	Less than 1/4 total cost	No contribution	Total	1/4 total cost	Less than 1/4 total cost	No contribution	Total				
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent				
United States total.....	24.7	37.9	37.4	100.0	29.7	26.5	43.8	100.0	16.6	8.2	75.2	100.0	25.1	36.1	38.8	100.0
Regions 2/:																
Northeast.....	23.1	36.2	40.0	100.0	39.4	23.7	36.9	100.0	7.6	7.6	84.8	100.0	24.0	25.0	41.0	100.0
Southeast.....	20.2	32.5	47.3	100.0	26.8	25.0	48.2	100.0	11.4	---	88.6	100.0	20.7	31.4	47.9	100.0
Midwest.....	25.4	31.1	31.1	100.0	28.1	27.0	44.9	100.0	28.3	14.1	57.6	100.0	25.8	40.8	33.4	100.0
Southwest.....	28.1	37.9	34.0	100.0	35.3	26.1	38.6	100.0	20.0	10.0	70.0	100.0	29.0	35.6	35.4	100.0
West.....	30.3	40.1	29.6	100.0	16.2	32.2	51.6	100.0	21.8	10.9	67.3	100.0	28.7	38.5	32.8	100.0
Population density:																
Counties less than 100,000:	25.3	39.5	35.2	100.0	36.8	25.7	37.5	100.0	21.4	7.0	71.6	100.0	26.5	37.8	35.7	100.0
Other counties and metropol. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	22.8	36.3	40.9	100.0	23.3	28.3	48.4	100.0	9.6	9.4	81.0	100.0	22.3	34.3	43.4	100.0
21 largest metropol. areas.....	24.2	32.1	43.7	100.0	16.1	26.8	57.1	100.0	22.7	7.6	69.7	100.0	22.8	30.4	46.8	100.0
Size of school:																
Under 250 pupils.....	29.5	39.4	31.1	100.0	39.2	26.9	33.9	100.0	30.0	---	70.0	100.0	30.8	37.3	31.9	100.0
250-499 pupils.....	23.3	36.5	40.2	100.0	25.4	22.0	52.6	100.0	39.3	---	60.7	100.0	23.6	35.1	41.3	100.0
500 or more pupils.....	20.2	37.5	42.3	100.0	18.9	28.9	52.2	100.0	9.1	11.9	79.0	100.0	19.6	35.4	45.0	100.0
Grades taught:																
Elementary.....	26.9	35.7	37.4	100.0	33.5	28.1	38.4	100.0	33.0	---	67.0	100.0	27.8	34.3	37.9	100.0
Junior and senior high.....	20.0	37.6	42.4	100.0	13.2	12.9	73.9	100.0	7.7	15.2	77.1	100.0	18.3	33.1	48.6	100.0
Other 3/.....	21.4	44.5	34.1	100.0	29.7	36.8	33.5	100.0	---	---	100.0	100.0	21.7	43.7	34.6	100.0

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 25.--Cash receipts from total food sales in schools having lunch service, and dollar value of plate lunch sales to pupils as percentage of total sales, by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service									
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program			Other plate lunches			A la carte only		Total	
	Total cash receipts	Plate lunches : as percentage : of total cash : receipts	Percent	Total cash receipts	Plate lunches : as percentage : of total cash : receipts	Percent	Total cash receipts	Total cash receipts	Total cash receipts	Percent
1,000 dollars			1,000 dollars			1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	Percent	
United States total.....	54,243	83.4		7,731	62.6		2,704	64,678	80.8	
Regions 2/:										
Northeast.....	12,810	70.3		970	54.1		607	14,397	69.2	
Southeast.....	14,642	91.1		1,896	68.9		323	16,861	88.5	
Midwest.....	11,681	87.7		1,899	75.1		325	13,905	85.9	
Southwest.....	6,812	95.1		1,678	54.1		753	9,243	87.0	
West.....	8,298	74.5		1,288	52.6		696	10,282	71.6	
Population density:										
Countries less than 100,000 : Other countries and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	27,734	94.4		2,401	83.1		260	30,395	93.5	
21 largest metrop. areas.....	14,984	32.2		2,933	57.2		1,392	19,309	78.1	
	11,525	58.6		2,397	48.8		1,052	14,974	56.9	
Size of school:										
Under 250 pupils.....	7,196	95.1		1,145	87.6		20	8,361	94.1	
250-499 pupils.....	15,541	92.3		1,339	76.9		108	16,988	91.1	
500 or more pupils.....	31,506	76.3		5,247	53.6		2,576	39,329	73.1	
Grades taught:										
Elementary.....	27,360	88.9		3,610	77.0		210	31,180	87.5	
Junior and senior high.....	14,868	63.9		3,292	43.9		2,267	20,427	60.3	
Other 3/.....	12,015	95.0		829	74.6		227	13,071	93.7	

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 26.--Percentage of schools receiving Federal surplus commodities, by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service		
	Complete plate lunch under National School Lunch Program	Other plate lunches	A la carte only
	Percent	Percent	Percent
United States total.....	97.6	82.8	52.1
Regions 2/:			
Northeast.....	93.0	84.2	30.8
Southeast.....	99.6	98.2	44.4
Midwest.....	98.7	73.0	57.1
Southwest.....	97.6	75.4	70.0
West.....	98.5	96.8	66.7
Population density:			
Countries less than 100,000.....	99.0	88.3	35.7
Other countries and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	97.7	86.7	57.1
21 largest metrop. areas.....	90.6	62.5	61.5
Size of school:			
Under 250 pupils.....	98.3	85.4	30.0
250-499 pupils.....	97.5	83.1	60.0
500 or more pupils.....	97.0	78.9	57.6
Grades taught:			
Elementary.....	96.8	83.3	44.4
Junior and senior high.....	97.7	82.6	65.4
Other 3/.....	99.4	80.0	0

See footnotes to table 5.

Table 27.--Average daily participation and ratio of average daily participation to pupils enrolled, plate lunch programs not under the National School Lunch Program, by average price paid by pupils for one plate lunch and by grades taught, United States, March 1957 1/

Price of lunch 2/	Schools offering other plate lunch service															
	Number of schools				Pupil enrollment				Average daily participation (Average lunches daily)				Average daily participation as percentage of pupils enrolled in participating schools			
	Total	Elementary	Secondary	Combined	Total	Elementary	Secondary	Combined	Total	Elementary	Secondary	Combined	Total	Elementary	Secondary	Combined
Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Percent	Percent	Percent	
5 cents.....	73	73	---	---	7,287	7,287	---	---	3,696	3,696	---	---	51	51	---	
10 cents.....	220	171	---	49	49,647	30,295	---	19,352	25,664	12,707	---	11,723	52	42	61	
15 cents.....	463	366	---	97	145,137	92,094	---	53,083	55,478	32,645	---	22,833	38	36	43	
20 cents.....	1,263	951	49	268	335,313	190,761	35,681	108,871	134,805	97,388	6,139	48,836	46	51	17	
25 cents.....	2,416	1,957	366	155	1,144,398	720,492	272,116	151,790	354,457	241,801	71,609	41,046	31	34	27	
30 cents.....	574	650	292	24	657,098	332,412	305,091	19,595	188,520	130,596	49,230	6,317	29	39	16	
35 cents.....	487	146	317	24	442,306	43,651	388,802	9,773	85,906	9,424	69,975	6,198	19	22	18	
40 cents.....	24	---	24	---	34,121	---	34,121	---	15,719	---	15,719	---	46	---	46	

1/ The data are subject to sampling variance.

2/ Schools having lunch prices different from those listed are not included in this table. Schools omitted comprise about 7 percent of all U. S. public schools serving plate lunches not under the National School Lunch Program.

Free lunches are not included in this table.

Table 28.--Sampling variability of estimates of number of schools by region, population density, size of school, grades taught, and type of lunch service, March 1957 1/

Item	Schools offering type of lunch service			
	Complete plate lunch: under National School Lunch Program:	Other plate lunches	A la carte only	None
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
United States total.....	0	6	14	3
Regions 2/:				
Northeast.....	3	16	27	4
Southeast.....	3	13	32	6
Midwest.....	3	10	37	0
Southwest.....	3	11	31	6
West.....	4	17	32	6
Population density:				
Counties less than 100,000.....	3	8	26	3
Other counties and metrop. areas over 100,000 but less than 700,000.....	4	13	22	6
21 largest metrop. areas.....	6	13	27	6
Size of school:				
Under 250 pupils.....	3	9	31	3
250-499 pupils.....	3	13	44	6
500 or more pupils.....	4	10	17	8
Grades taught:				
Elementary.....	3	7	23	3
Junior and senior high.....	5	14	19	11
Other 3/.....	4	18	49	12

See footnotes to table 5.

NOTE: All sampling errors shown are coefficients of variation at the one sigma level. At this level, the chances are 2 out of 3 that the quantities estimated in this survey would differ from the results of a complete census by less than the percentages shown (there are about 19 chances out of 20 that the quantities estimated from this survey would differ from the results of a complete census by less than twice the percentage shown).



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