

2025 Summer Nutrition Programs

North Carolina

NORTH CAROLINA

USDA's three **SUN** summer nutrition programs for kids offer families more ways to get their kids the nutrition they need when school is out. Lack of nutrition during the summer makes students more likely to fall behind in school and experience health issues.

NEED
1.1M or 73% of students in North Carolina's K-12 schools were eligible for FRP* school meals



FUELING CHILDREN & THE ECONOMY

\$149.2 in funding to the state from all SUN Summer Nutrition Programs



\$120 per eligible child for the 2025 summer

1.1M

Children received benefits

\$126.6M

Funding distributed in NC



Congregate meals, eaten on-site with other kids

3.1M

Meals served

\$13.3M

NC summer meals funding

156/157

Congregate sponsors/total sponsors**

2,052

Congregate meal sites

904/2,052

Open sites/Congregate meal sites
open to anyone 18 years and under



Non-congregate meals (NCM), in rural areas, picked up or delivered to homes

2.2M

Meals served

\$9.3M

NC summer meals funding

43/157

NCM sponsors/total sponsors**

267

NCM sites

55/267

Hybrid sites/Total NCM sites
serve congregare and NCM meals

251/267

Open NCM sites/Total NCM sites
open to anyone 18 years and under

*Free and Reduced-Priced school meals

**Most non-congregate meal sponsors also serve congregare meals; therefore the numbers of sponsors overlap.

NORTH CAROLINA 2025 Summer Nutrition Programs

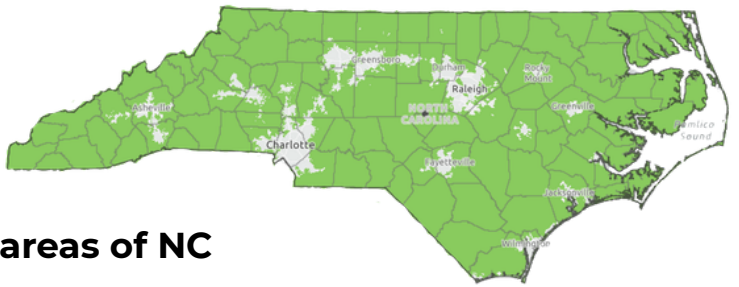


Total # Summer Meals for Kids: 5.3M

Meal Type	Meals Served
Breakfast	2.2M
Lunch	2.9M
Supper	37.2K
Snack	229.9K



NCM participating areas



Rural areas of NC

THE OPPORTUNITY: Expanding Access

Up to 2 meals or snacks are reimbursable by USDA at each meal site daily - and can be served 7 days a week during the summer.

\$496.5M

Potential funds if every FRP eligible student received 2 meals Monday-Friday (55 days) in the summer.

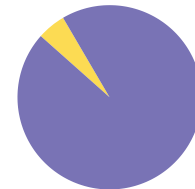
\$22.6M

Funding Accessed

\$474M

Not Accessed

5% Funds Accessed



95%

Funds Not Accessed



SummerMeals4NCKids.org/Data-Profiles

SummerMeals4NCKids.org @NCSchoolMeals, @Ray4NCKids

NCDHHS.gov/SUNBucks @NCDHHS, #SUNBucks

CarolinaHungerInitiative.org @CarolinaHungerInitiative



These institutions are equal opportunity employers and providers.

Data Sources: See data explainer at SummerMeals4NCKids.org/Data-Profiles.

Updated 4/20/26