

HEALTH OPEN

DATA NY

Child and Adult
Care Food Program
Participation

Child and Adult Care Food Program Participation Data Overview

General Description

The New York State Department of Health Child and Adult Care Food Program Mission Statement:

- To ensure that nutritious and safely-prepared meals and snacks are available to children and adults in day care settings
- To provide reimbursement for qualifying meals and snacks served in child or adult day care centers, outside-school-hours care programs, family day care homes, and homeless shelters

The New York State Department of Health annually receives funding from the federal government to support and further enhance New York's Child and Adult Care Food Program's (CACFP) statewide.

The CACFP initiative is supported through an entitlement program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and continues New York's commitment of promoting the health and well-being of its residents. Currently, more than 1,500 sponsoring organizations representing 14,000 licensed or registered center-based or family day care sites are participating statewide. On average, day care providers serve approximately 300,000 meals to children and adults each day. In 2010, New York received nearly \$190 million in federal USDA funds for this expanded nutrition program.

This dataset contains day care home provider and day care center programs participating in CACFP. Participating programs in CACFP are child care centers, including Head Start centers, outside school hours programs serving children through age twelve in licensed or registered non-residential settings, after school programs providing educational or enrichment programming for children up to nineteen years of age in low income areas, community-based adult day care centers that are approved by federal, state or local authorities to provide day care services to functionally impaired adults through individualized care plans, and home-based and group child care. Legally exempt day care home providers and homeless shelters participating in CACFP are excluded from this dataset. The dataset also includes indicators for Breastfeeding Friendly Certification and participation in either Eat Well Play Hard in Child Care Settings (EWPHCCS) or Eat Well Play Hard in Day Care Homes (EWPHDCH) projects.

Day care home providers are divided into several types: Registered, Licensed, Legally Exempt and In-Process. Registered refers to "family day care", typically having a capacity of 5-6 children and 2 school-age children. Licensed refers to "group family day care", typically having a capacity of 10-16 children. Legally Exempt is a child care setting of the providers related children plus two unrelated children. In-Process means the provider is in the process of becoming either a Licensed or Registered provider.

Breastfeeding Friendly Certification

The New York State Department of Health's Obesity Prevention Program encourages new mothers to breastfeed their infants. The Department's Child and Adult Care Food Program encourages child care centers and family day care homes to support breastfeeding families and recognizes these providers with Breastfeeding Friendly certificates. Child care center/day care home staff complete an assessment that shows they support breastfeeding families.

Eat Well Play Hard Child Care Settings (EWPHCCS)

The EWPHCCS project, through the provision of six lessons to both young children and their parents, and two lessons to child care center staff, aims to provide consistent and positive messages about eating healthy foods and being physically active to three and four year old children attending targeted child care centers and their caregivers (at home and in child care).

Eat Well Play Hard Day Care Homes (EWPHDCH)

The EWPHDCH project was designed as an educational and environmental change program with Day Care Home (DCH) providers as the primary target audience and the children and their parents as the secondary target audiences. The primary goal of the program is to help DCH providers make changes in their environments to promote healthy eating and increased physical activity for the children in their care.

Data Collection Methodology

CACFP participation data is collected and reviewed using a web-based application called CACFP Information and Payment System (CIPS). CIPS is used by approximately 1,800 users who are individually permitted access to specific functional areas. In general, they can be divided into three levels of program operations: (1) state level access, (2) sponsor level access and (3) center/provider access.

CIPS follows the standard CACFP business flow for maintaining information about CACFP sponsors and participants and their claims for reimbursement and streamlining the process. Users at the sponsor and center/provider levels are able to enter their data into CIPS and track their participation. The system makes it easier for the State to quickly approve applications and claims and make payments to the sponsoring organizations.

System users at the sponsoring organization level can access the web-based CIPS to maintain information about their participation with CACFP. Data in general contains details about their participation with such things as: days open, types and meals served and number of participants.

Limitation of Data Use

The Dataset is updated routinely as described in the metadata. CACFP participation changes daily and may not be immediately reflected in this database. Breastfeeding Friendly application review is on-going and recent changes may not be reflected in this database. EWPHCCS

participation and EWPHDCH participation is reviewed quarterly and recent changes may not be reflected in this database.

This dataset excludes Child and Adult Care Food Program participation provided at homeless shelters and legally exempt day care home providers.

Eat Well Play Hard in Child Care Settings (EWPHCCS) Program Requirements :

Eat Well Play Hard in Child Care Settings is a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) initiative that is implemented in low income child care centers statewide. Centers are selected based on the following criteria: 1) the center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) 2) 50% or more of the enrolled children qualify for free and reduced priced meals which is based on family income 3) the center is in good standing with CACFP 4) the center has not received EWPHCCS implementation within the last 2 years 5) the center must commit to the full EWPHCCS program of child, parent and staff classes and be willing to take an active role in marketing the parent classes, have an appropriate space in which to hold parent classes and be willing to complete demographic information for each child.

Once a list of centers is established by CACFP staff , it is sent to each grantee for center selection. The grantee Registered Dietitian (RD) then contacts centers to see if they want to participate in EWPHCCS.

Limitations: Not all counties in NYS serviced by the 7 grantees implementing the program.

Overview of Eat Well Play Hard in Day Care Homes (EWPHDCH) Program Requirements:

Using the state's Eat Well Play Hard (EWPH) five core goals as the foundation, the EWPHDCH pilot was designed as an educational and environmental change program with Day Care Home (DCH) providers as the primary target audience and the children and their parents as the secondary target audiences. The primary goal of the program is to help DCH providers make changes in their environments to promote healthy eating and increased physical activity for the children in their care. In particular, DCH providers are asked to focus on increasing the variety of fruits and vegetables offered at the DCH and increasing opportunities for adult-led structured play. DCH providers also are encouraged, but not required, to pursue additional goals related to improving eating habits, increasing physical activity, increasing support for breastfeeding, or decreasing screen time.

Four contracted agencies identify CACFP-participating DCH providers in their service areas that are eligible for the intervention. Among those who volunteer to participate, at least 60% of providers selected to receive the intervention must be low-income themselves (based upon household income) or be located in a low-income geographic area. A low-income geographic area is defined as 1) an area served by a public school in which 50% or more of enrolled children

are eligible for free or reduced price school meals or 2) the provider operates in a U.S. Census block group where 50% or more of households with children under 12 years of age have incomes at or below 185% of the poverty level.

Limitations: The EWPHDCH project is currently limited to the areas served by the contracted agencies.