



NJ School Breakfast Snapshot: The Underachievers

Unfortunately, other high-poverty districts continue to lag behind. In April 2015, of New Jersey's 168 school districts and charter schools where at least half of students are eligible for free- or reduced-price school meals, 48 served fewer than 31 percent of eligible students.

In these districts alone, more than 46,000 of New Jersey's needy children did not receive school breakfast. If all eligible students received breakfast each school day, the districts would receive an estimated \$12.7 million more in federal funding to support school breakfast each year — money they can access only by boosting their breakfast programs, because it is earmarked for morning meals and cannot offset other educational expenses. And most important, more low-income students would start the day with the nutrition they need to concentrate and succeed in school.

School breakfast participation remains very low in a handful of districts serving communities with high rates of child poverty. Nine districts reported feeding less than 10 percent of their eligible students: Guttenberg, Kearny, Fairview and Belleville, along with charter schools Trenton Stem-to-Civics, Gray, Robert Treat Academy, Soaring Heights and Queen City Academy.

This amplifies the urgent need for high-poverty districts to serve breakfast after the bell, a proven way to boost student participation. It is especially important for superintendents to provide leadership on this issue. School officials with effective programs say that superintendent support is essential to school breakfast success.

School Breakfast Underachievers

| County | School District | # of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-price Breakfast | Eligible Students as % of Total Enrollment | % Eligible Students Served | # Eligible Students NOT Receiving Breakfast | Total Possible Federal Reimbursement* |
|----------|---|---|--|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Mercer | Trenton Stem-To-Civics Charter School | 96 | 95 | 5 | 91 | \$25,178 |
| Essex | Gray Charter School | 211 | 65 | 7 | 197 | \$54,785 |
| Essex | Robert Treat Academy Charter School | 447 | 72 | 7 | 414 | \$112,828 |
| Hudson | Soaring Heights Charter School | 121 | 51 | 7 | 112 | \$29,477 |
| Hudson | Guttenberg | 761 | 78 | 8 | 701 | \$195,908 |
| Hudson | Kearny Town | 3,401 | 58 | 8 | 3,117 | \$857,369 |
| Bergen | Fairview | 1,066 | 81 | 8 | 976 | \$271,688 |
| Union | Queen City Academy Charter School | 205 | 83 | 9 | 187 | \$52,319 |
| Essex | Belleville | 2,638 | 59 | 9 | 2,403 | \$655,441 |
| Bergen | Lodi | 1,993 | 61 | 10 | 1,794 | \$481,648 |
| Camden | Brooklawn | 195 | 58 | 11 | 174 | \$48,028 |
| Passaic | Haledon | 718 | 69 | 11 | 637 | \$175,925 |
| Bergen | Englewood On The Palisades Charter School | 141 | 69 | 11 | 125 | \$34,254 |
| Monmouth | Keyport | 596 | 55 | 12 | 523 | \$143,368 |

continued on following page

| County | School District | # of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-price Breakfast | Eligible Students as % of Total Enrollment | % Eligible Students Served | # Eligible Students NOT Receiving Breakfast | Total Possible Federal Reimbursement* |
|------------|---|---|--|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Essex | Newark Prep | 366 | 89 | 13 | 320 | \$89,496 |
| Essex | Paulo Freire Charter School For Liberty Ed | 107 | 54 | 14 | 92 | \$25,679 |
| Burlington | Riverside | 771 | 56 | 15 | 655 | \$181,260 |
| Hudson | Great Futures Charter High School For The Health Sciences | 84 | 67 | 15 | 71 | \$20,030 |
| Middlesex | Carteret | 2,476 | 67 | 16 | 2,083 | \$571,345 |
| Monmouth | Bradley Beach | 144 | 51 | 16 | 121 | \$33,332 |
| Ocean | Lakehurst | 210 | 55 | 17 | 175 | \$47,772 |
| Union | Central Jersey Arts Charter School | 296 | 73 | 17 | 245 | \$68,166 |
| Passaic | Clifton | 6,191 | 57 | 17 | 5,123 | \$1,408,921 |
| Bergen | Cliffside Park | 1,907 | 64 | 17 | 1,575 | \$432,594 |
| Monmouth | Neptune City | 202 | 53 | 19 | 164 | \$44,644 |
| Union | Rahway | 2,185 | 58 | 19 | 1,769 | \$480,775 |
| Union | Linden | 3,486 | 58 | 19 | 2,821 | \$765,970 |
| Passaic | Prospect Park | 618 | 71 | 19 | 500 | \$139,554 |
| Morris | Dover | 2,475 | 78 | 20 | 1,988 | \$545,596 |
| Ocean | Ocean Gate | 100 | 63 | 20 | 80 | \$22,212 |
| Hudson | Jersey City Golden Door Charter School | 352 | 66 | 22 | 274 | \$73,822 |
| Middlesex | Academy For Urban Leadership Charter School | 275 | 71 | 23 | 213 | \$58,903 |
| Hudson | University Academy Charter School | 323 | 76 | 23 | 249 | \$68,062 |
| Camden | Woodlynne | 347 | 91 | 23 | 267 | \$74,747 |
| Gloucester | Clayton | 811 | 56 | 23 | 622 | \$169,823 |
| Camden | Camden Academy Charter High School | 400 | 86 | 24 | 304 | \$85,486 |
| Somerset | North Plainfield | 2,245 | 68 | 24 | 1,704 | \$465,386 |
| Bergen | Bergen Arts And Sciences Charter School | 529 | 55 | 24 | 401 | \$106,592 |
| Hudson | Hoboken | 1,178 | 62 | 24 | 891 | \$246,380 |
| Morris | Wharton | 425 | 54 | 25 | 320 | \$86,958 |
| Essex | North Star Academy Charter School Of Newark | 2,856 | 84 | 25 | 2,145 | \$590,004 |
| Hudson | North Bergen | 5,732 | 71 | 26 | 4,261 | \$1,178,510 |
| Monmouth | Belmar | 330 | 62 | 26 | 245 | \$67,842 |
| Essex | Burch Charter School Of Excellence | 254 | 71 | 26 | 188 | \$51,415 |
| Bergen | Garfield | 3,414 | 70 | 27 | 2,479 | \$678,668 |
| Burlington | Burlington City | 1,037 | 61 | 28 | 744 | \$206,302 |
| Union | Hillside | 2,108 | 68 | 30 | 1,481 | \$400,102 |
| Passaic | Passaic Arts And Science Charter School | 456 | 85 | 30 | 317 | \$86,537 |
| | Total/ Average | 57,277 | 65 | 19 | 46,336 | \$12,711,101 |

*Based on all eligible students eating breakfast all 180 school days.