

TEXAS SCHOOL BREAKFAST Progress Report



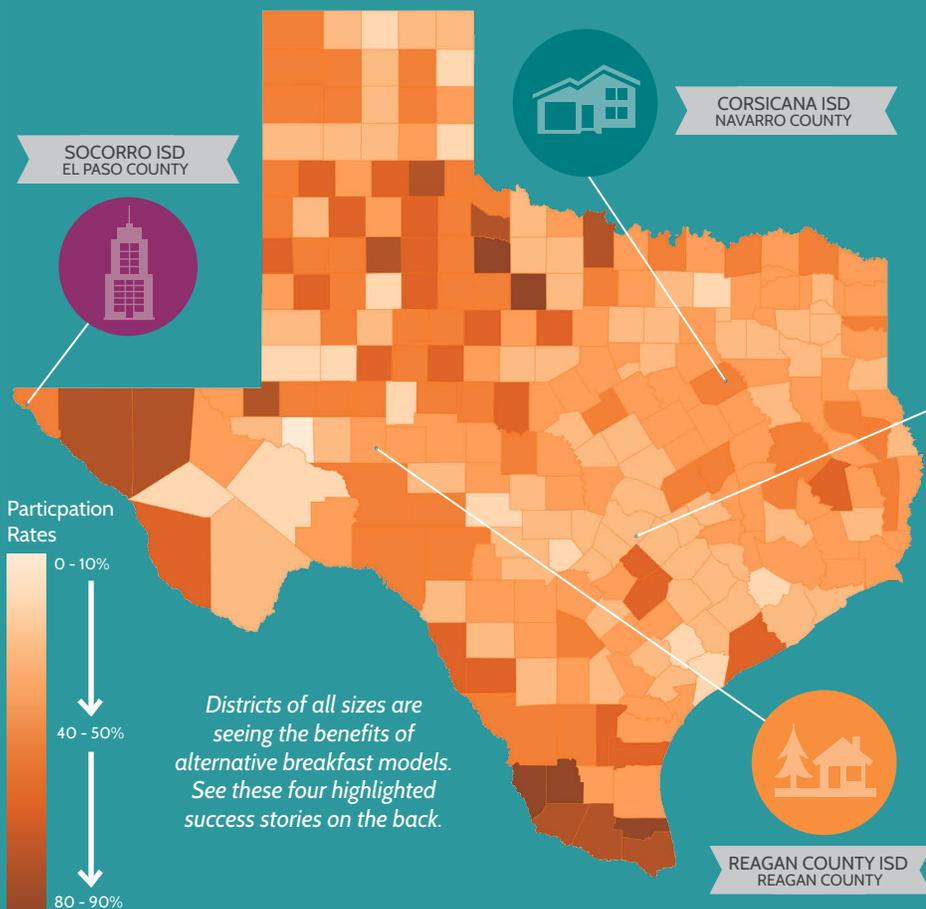
The Texas School Breakfast Progress Report is an addition to the *Texas School Breakfast Report Card*. This report, published biennially, serves as a timely resource for Texas schools, offering methods to help ensure all students have access to a nutritious breakfast. To see your district's participation level from the 2012-2013 school year, visit: tinyurl.com/SBRC2012-13

School Breakfast participation is on the rise in Texas

More than **1.7 million students** (of 5.3 million students in Texas) started the school day with breakfast in 2013-2014, and almost 1.5 million of these students were eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

With benefits such as improved attendance, decreased tardiness and better class participation, breakfast is a contributing component to a successful school day. Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, schools with 80 percent or more students eligible for free and reduced-price meals are required to offer breakfast to all students at no charge. Thanks to Senate Bill 376, Texas can ensure that more children receive adequate nutrition to start the school day focused on learning and not on growling bellies.

To increase participation in their breakfast programs and maximize the potential benefits, many schools have implemented creative service models like Breakfast in the Classroom, Grab and Go, and Second Chance Breakfast. The map below indicates the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals that are eating free or reduced-price breakfast, by county—the darker the county color, the higher the level of participation. *Note: Each county is unique with its own challenges to overcome and number of students to serve. For data by school district, refer to the 2012-2013 Texas School Breakfast Report Card (see link above).*



\$505+ million

Reimbursements Texas schools received for school breakfast meals in the 2013-2014 school year

62.1%

Percentage of students eating free or reduced-price breakfast that also eat free or reduced-price lunch—not far from our goal of 70 percent!



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Success Strategies: Districts of all sizes are seeing breakfast benefits.



SOCORRO ISD, 6A EL PASO COUNTY

Located in El Paso County, Socorro ISD is investing in the health and nutrition of its students by providing both Universal School Breakfast and Breakfast in the Classroom districtwide to more than 44,000 students on 46 campuses. School officials encourage breakfast participation by continually adapting menus and business models to better serve students and community stakeholders. SISD Child Nutrition Services credits its district staff, including cafeteria personnel, teachers and principals, as integral to the program's success. Keep an eye out for the district's upcoming video feature on Share Our Strength's YouTube channel!



DEL VALLE ISD, 6A TRAVIS COUNTY

In southeast Travis County, Del Valle ISD serves more than 11,000 students from both suburban and rural areas on 15 campuses. DVISD is convinced that breakfast benefits school performance and began offering Universal School Breakfast districtwide in 2005. Breakfast in the Classroom is currently served at all elementary and middle schools totaling almost 7,000 meals a day! At the high school, carts and tables throughout the campus offer multiple locations of service to encourage student participation. For DVISD, administrative support is an important factor in promoting healthy meals to support educational excellence.



CORSICANA ISD, 5A NAVARRO COUNTY

A mid-sized district, Corsicana ISD is 55 miles south of Dallas with eight campuses and just under 6,000 students. CISD is proud to offer Universal School Breakfast districtwide, and Breakfast in the Classroom is served to all elementary and intermediate students. Since moving breakfast to the classroom, participation has increased by at least 50 percent! Bowie Elementary exemplifies streamlined procedures: red and blue bags separate hot and cold items, students deliver carts to classrooms and teachers count participation. Teachers' support and cafeteria staff training are key to smooth operations, so administration checks in regularly to identify areas for improvement.



REAGAN COUNTY ISD, 2A REAGAN COUNTY

Breakfast program participation and efficiency can be a challenge even in a rural district. Reagan County ISD is home to just under 1,000 students in Big Lake, about 65 miles west of San Angelo. Before serving Breakfast in the Classroom at the elementary school, the food service director visited another district to observe procedures that worked best. To minimize cost, dual-service tubs carry both cold and hot items from kitchen to cart, and serving students in the hallway and scanning ID cards to count participation increase efficiency. Promotional letters to parents have also boosted participation growth. RCISD offers free breakfast to teachers to show appreciation for program support.

STATE PARTICIPATION BY SCHOOL YEAR

	2012-2013	2013-2014	CHANGE
TEXAS STUDENT ENROLLMENT	5,307,244	5,221,966	-85,278
FREE & REDUCED-PRICE (FRP) ELIGIBLE	60.1%	60.9%	0.8%
AVERAGE DAILY PARTICIPATION IN FRP BREAKFAST	44.6%	46.4%	1.8%
AVERAGE DAILY PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL BREAKFAST	31.6%	33.4%	1.8%
FRP BREAKFASTS/100 FRP LUNCHES	61.1%	62.1%	1.1%

"Students who wouldn't normally eat in the school breakfast program are now participating. I am extremely happy Corsicana ISD offers *Breakfast in the Classroom.*"

Shirrell Jessie, Child Nutrition Director, Corsicana ISD

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP): More efficient systems, reaching more kids

School districts can use Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) in individual schools, groups of schools or districtwide to meet the requirement of 40 percent or more identified students. With improved Identified Student Percentages and eligibility guaranteed for four years, that means more money for Texas schools!

As of September 2014, Texas led the nation in the number of schools enrolled in CEP. With nearly **1,500 schools** now utilizing this new provision, almost **1 million students** have access to breakfast and lunch at no charge. Plus, by eliminating meal applications and the need to track eligibility in the lunch line, resources and staff can be allocated to other educational priorities.

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Data in report retrieved from Texas Department of Agriculture, Center for Public Policy Priorities and the 2012-2013 Texas School Breakfast Report Card. For technical notes, call 254-710-6900.



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