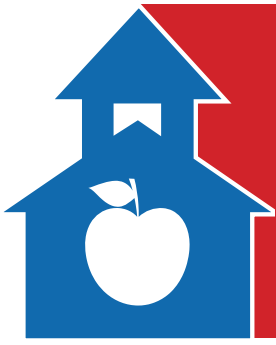


C2.2 STUDY OBJECTIVES (GROUPS 1, 2, & 3)

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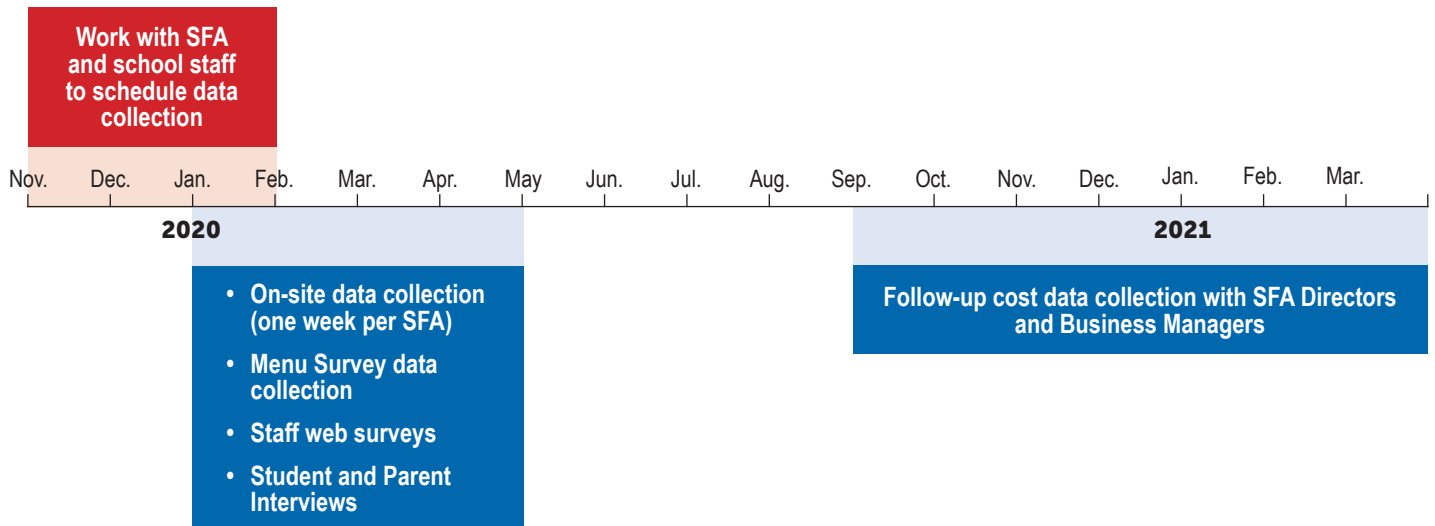
School Nutrition and Meal Cost Study-II (SNMCS-II)

About the Study

School Nutrition and Meal Cost Study-II (SNMCS-II) will continue the long-standing commitment of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to assess school meal programs. FNS is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This study continues the important research begun in the first School Nutrition and Meal Cost Study (SNMCS-I) (OMB Control Number: 0584-0596, discontinued 7/31/2017) by updating information on school nutrition policies and practices. It will measure how many students take part in the meal program, what foods they consume, and their opinion of the foods. It will also assess the relationships among these factors and the nutritional quality and cost of school meals.

FNS has contracted with Mathematica Policy Research to conduct SNMCS-II about SY 2019-2020. SNMCS-II will collect a broad range of data from public school food authorities (SFAs), schools, and students and their parents. These data about the school meals programs will help Federal, State, and local stakeholders better serve students.

Timeline of Study Activities



According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-XXXX. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 2 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Policy Support, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1014, Alexandria, VA 22302, ATTN: PRA (0584-xxxx). Do not return the completed form to this address.

SNMCS-II Study Objectives



Objective 1: Describe the school environment, food service operating policies and practices, student participation, and other characteristics of schools and SFAs participating in the NSLP and SBP.



Objective 2: Determine the food and nutrient content of school meals and afterschool snacks and the overall nutritional quality of these meals and snacks.



Objective 3: Determine the cost to produce reimbursable school lunches and breakfasts, including indirect and local administrative costs, and examine the ratios of revenues to costs.



Objective 4: Describe student characteristics, participation, student/parent satisfaction, plate waste, and students' dietary intakes.

SNMCS-II Data Collection Activities

Mathematica is selecting a sample of about 500 SFAs nationwide and two to four schools per SFA. It will collect data only from SFAs and schools necessary for the study's success. The sample is divided into three groups. The SFAs and schools in each group will participate in different activities. During SY 2019–2020, SFAs and schools will be asked to complete the activities shown in the figure below about SY 2019–2020.

Group 1

- SFA Director Survey

Group 2

- Menu Survey
- SFA Director, School Nutrition Manager, and Principal Surveys
- Student and Parent Interviews
- Observations of Cafeteria and Other Sources of Foods and Beverages

Group 3

- Menu Survey
- SFA Director, School Nutrition Manager, and Principal Surveys
- SFA Director, School Nutrition Manager, and Principal Cost Interviews
- Observations of Cafeteria and Other Sources of Foods and Beverages
- Plate Waste Observations (only in selected schools)

