Appendix D.4
Screenshots of State Agency Child Nutrition Director Survey: Summer 2022

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), has contracted with Mathematica to conduct the School Meals Operations (SMO) Study. This survey is collecting information on the statutory reporting requirements for the 14 nationwide COVID-19 Child Nutrition waivers that FNS authorized for use during School Year (SY) 2021-2022 due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and pursuant to the authority in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

These waivers apply to the following Child Nutrition Programs:
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Seamless Summer Option (SSO)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)*

Federal statute requires each State Agency that oversees these programs to report on:
1. The use of each waiver by the State Agency and local program operators, and
2. A description of whether and how each waiver resulted in improved services to children.

* *This study is focused on Child Nutrition Programs and is not collecting information on use of the waivers for CACFP operations in adult day care centers.*

Because this is a mandatory information collection, your State Agency must answer all questions regarding each nationwide waiver that was used in SY 2021-2022. **Full participation in the SMO Study will satisfy your State Agency's reporting requirements for the nationwide COVID-19 Child Nutrition waivers used in SY 2021-2022.**

The final section of this survey includes questions about State Agency challenges administering the Child Nutrition Programs during SY 2021-2022. FNS is seeking this information to inform future Child Nutrition Program policy, procedures, and guidance.

The information you provide about yourself and other individuals in your organizations will be kept private to the full extent allowed by law. This means that your personal information will be kept private and not associated with any of your responses about your agencies' operations. The responses you provide about operations may be tabulated by State so that the public will be able to determine how your agency operates within the Child Nutrition Programs.

We thank you in advance for your time and cooperation in this important study. If you have any questions about the study, please email SMOStudy@mathematica-mpr.com or call Mathematica toll-free at 833-440-9475.

NEXT >>

Agency.

- Question numbers may not follow sequentially as you proceed through the data collection instrument. The numbers are only displayed to assist you in following along with the hard copy, if desired.

- You may view FNS guidance on each of the waivers here [LINK TO Waivers List PAGE].

- If you need a colleague to complete a section of the survey, you should forward them the email with the link to the survey. They do not need a separate link.

- **Avoid having multiple people logged into the survey at once.** Responses may not be recorded correctly if multiple users are logged into the survey at the same time.

- If you or a colleague are returning to finish your saved survey, the program will return to the "**Survey Sections**" menu. Use the menu to return to previous questions or start a new section.

- Within each section you may review your unanswered questions using the "Section Review" link at the top of the page.

- This survey has been optimized to run on a desktop computer and is best viewed in the latest versions of Chrome, Firefox, or Internet Explorer.

- Click the **"Next"** button to progress in the survey. You must click this button to save your responses. **If you cannot complete the survey in one sitting, click the "Next" button before you close your browser.** Your answers will be saved.

- Click the **"Back"** button to go to the previous question.

- **Use the buttons and links within the survey.** Using your browser's "Back" function may cause errors.

- Definitions for key terms are provided in the **glossary** located on the "Help" page. As you complete the survey, you may return to this page at any point via the "Help" link in the lower left corner of the window.

- If you have any questions about the study or about completing this survey, please email SMOStudy@mathematica-mpr.com or call Mathematica toll-free at 833-440-9475.

NEXT >>

Glossary

Bulk food packages: Food packages that contain items that could be used for multiple meals or portion

Institutions: Any independent center or sponsoring organization of day care homes or child care centers that enters into an agreement with the State Agency to assume responsibility for CACFP operations.

Local Program Operators: SFAs, sponsors, or institutions that operate NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, or CACFP.

School food authority (SFA): The governing body that has the legal authority to operate a lunch or breakfast program in one or more public or private schools.

Sponsors: A public or private non-profit SFA or another public or private non-profit organization that is approved by the State Agency to participate in the SFSP.

Close

Waivers

This data collection is focused on the reporting requirements associated with the following nationwide waivers authorized for use in SY 2021-20222:

1. [Nationwide Waiver to Allow the Seamless Summer Option](#) (Response 85)
   Allows SFSP and Seamless Summer Option operations through June 30, 2022.
2. [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program Reimbursement Rates](#) (Response 86)
   Allows school food authorities to claim NSLP SSO meals and snacks at the SFSP reimbursement rates.
3. [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Meal Service](#) (Response 87)
   Allows meals to be served in non-group settings to support social distancing.
4. [Nationwide Waiver of Meal Times Requirements](#) (Response 88)
   Allows meals to be served to kids outside traditional times to maximize flexibility for meal pick-up.
5. [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children](#) (Response 89)
   Allows parents/guardians to pick-up meals and bring them home to their children.
6. [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Specific School Meal Pattern Flexibility](#) (Response 90)
   Provides the flexibility to serve meals that do not meet specified meal pattern requirements when needed.
7. [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Specific Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child and Adult Care Food Program](#) (Response 91)
   Provides the flexibility to serve meals that do not meet specified meal pattern requirements when needed.
8. [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibility for Senior High Schools](#) (Response 92)
   Provides the flexibility to serve meals without using offer versus serve in senior high schools.
9. [Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility in the Afterschool Programs and for Family Day Care Home Providers](#) (Response 93)
   Allows schools and at-risk afterschool care centers, regardless of their location, to claim all National School Lunch Program Afterschool Snack Service and Child and Adult Care Food Program At-risk Afterschool Program meals and snacks at the free rate.
10. [Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the School Meal Programs – Revised – EXTENSION 3](#) (Response 94)
    Provides flexibilities for certain monitoring and review requirements for school meals programs.
11. [Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for State Agencies in the Child and Adult Care Food Program – EXTENSION 3](#) (Response 95)
    Provides flexibilities for certain monitoring and review requirements for school meals programs.
12. [Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the Child and Adult Care Food Program – EXTENSION](#) (Response 96)
    Provides flexibilities for certain monitoring and review requirements for sponsors participating in CACFP.
13. [Nationwide Waiver to Provide Flexibility for School Meal Programs Administrative Reviews of School Food Authorities Operating Only the Seamless Summer Option in School Year (SY) 2021-2022](#) (Response 97)
    Provides flexibilities for State agencies conducting administrative reviews of school food authorities operating only the SSO.
14. [Nationwide Waiver of Local School Wellness Policy Triennial Assessments in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs](#) (Response 98)
    Provides a new first triennial assessment deadline of June 30, 2022.

[<< BACK]   [NEXT >>]

SMO

School Meals Operations Study

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are *not* the State Child Nutrition Director, please fill in your name and contact information:

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Title: _____

Street Address 1: _____

Street Address 2: _____

City: _____

State: ____

Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Ext. Number: _____

Email: _____

[<< BACK]   [NEXT >>]

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

CONTACT INFORMATION

Before starting the survey please fill in the requested contact information below. If the information below is prefilled, please review and update the information as necessary. If you are not the State Child Nutrition Director, please also fill in your name and contact information on the next page.

Please fill in the contact information for the *State Child Nutrition Director* below:
(Update where necessary)

First Name:

Last Name:

Street Address 1:

Street Address 2:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone Number:

Ext. Number:

Email:

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

A. [WAIVER]

This section asks about use of the [WAIVER]. Please answer the following questions focusing on use of the waiver during SY 2021-2022.

<< BACK   NEXT >>

7

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

For which Child Nutrition Programs did local program operators use the [WAIVER]?

Local program operators include School Food Authorities (**SFAs**), or Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) **institutions**.

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

☐ National School Lunch Program

☐ School Breakfast Program

☐ Seamless Summer Option

☐ Child and Adult Care Food Program

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

How many SFAs used the [WAIVER] for NSLP anytime during SY 2021-2022.

Please enter the number of SFAs that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[____] NUMBER OF SFAS

○ Actual number of SFAs, data provided by all SFAs

○ Estimated number of SFAs, data not provided by all SFAs

○ Don't know- data not collected

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

How many SFAs used the [WAIVER] for SBP anytime during SY 2021-2022.

Please enter the number of SFAs that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[____] NUMBER OF SFAS

○ Actual number of SFAs, data provided by all SFAs

○ Estimated number of SFAs, data not provided by all SFAs

○ Don't know- data not collected

<< BACK   NEXT >>

8

How many SFAs used the [WAIVER] for SSO anytime during SY 2021-2022.

Please enter the number of SFAs that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[ ] NUMBER OF SFAS

○ Actual number of SFAs, data provided by all SFAs

○ Estimated number of SFAs, data not provided by all SFAs

○ Don't know- data not collected

<< BACK   NEXT >>

9

How many **institutions** that operate childcare centers used the [WAIVER] for CACFP anytime during SY 2021-2022.

Please enter the number of childcare centers that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[   ] NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS THAT OPERATE CHILDCARE CENTERS

○ Actual number of **institutions** that operate childcare centers, data provided by all childcare centers

○ Estimated number of **institutions** that operate childcare centers, data not provided by all childcare centers

○ Don't know- data not collected

How many institutions that operate family daycare homes used the [WAIVER] for CACFP anytime during SY 2021-2022.

Please enter the number of family daycare homes that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[   ] NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS THAT OPERATE FAMILY DAYCARE HOMES

○ Actual number of institutions that operate family daycare homes, data provided by all family daycare homes

○ Estimated number of institutions that operate family daycare homes, data not provided by all family daycare homes

○ Don't know- data not collected

[<< BACK]   [NEXT >>]

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

For each program, approximately what proportion of local program operators that provided meal service during the federally declared COVID-19 public health emergency used the [WAIVER]?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
National School Lunch Program	○	○	○	○	○	○
School Breakfast Program	○	○	○	○	○	○
Seamless Summer Option	○	○	○	○	○	○
Child and Adult Care Food Program	○	○	○	○	○	○

[<< BACK]   [NEXT >>]

10

For SFAs that used the [WAIVER], approximately what proportion implemented the following meal delivery methods, meal options, and meal counting methods for NSLP, SBP or SSO?

*Bulk food packages: Food packages that contain more than one Child Nutrition Program meal.

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
Meal delivery methods						
Walk-up sites at schools, centers, or other buildings	○	○	○	○	○	○
Curbside pick-up/ drive through service	○	○	○	○	○	○
Mobile sites at which a bus or van delivers meals at pre-set times	○	○	○	○	○	○
Delivery with stops at individual homes	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other home delivery methods	○	○	○	○	○	○
Meal options						
Full week (5 days) of meals at one time	○	○	○	○	○	○
2–3 days of meals at one time	○	○	○	○	○	○
Weekend meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Bulk food packages*	○	○	○	○	○	○
Frozen meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Shelf-stable meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Meal counting methods						
Standard point of service system	○	○	○	○	○	○
Mobile technology (for example, laptop, tablet, or cell phone apps)	○	○	○	○	○	○
Paper rosters	○	○	○	○	○	○
Clickers	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other meal delivery method, option, or counting method (specify) [_____]	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

For institutions that used the [WAIVER], approximately what proportion implemented the following meal delivery methods, meal options, and meal counting methods for CACFP?

*Bulk food packages: Food packages that contain more than one Child Nutrition Program meal.

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
Meal delivery methods						
Walk-up sites at schools, centers, or other buildings	○	○	○	○	○	○
Curbside pick-up/ drive through service	○	○	○	○	○	○
Mobile sites at which a bus or van delivers meals at pre-set times	○	○	○	○	○	○
Delivery with stops at individual homes	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other home delivery methods	○	○	○	○	○	○
Meal options						
Full week (5 days) of meals at one time	○	○	○	○	○	○
2–3 days of meals at one time	○	○	○	○	○	○
Weekend meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Bulk food packages*	○	○	○	○	○	○
Frozen meals				○	○	○
Shelf-stable meals				○	○	○
Supper and a snack through CACFP at-risk				○	○	○
Meal counting methods						
Standard point of service system	○	○	○	○	○	○
Mobile technology (for example, laptop, tablet, or cell phone apps)	○	○	○	○	○	○
Paper rosters	○	○	○	○	○	○
Clickers	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other meal delivery method, option, or counting method (specify) [_____]	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

For SFAs that used the *Nationwide Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup Waiver* for NSLP, SBP, or SSO, approximately what proportion used the following methods to ensure that meals were distributed only to parents or guardians of eligible children?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
Scanned children's meal cards or asked for children's personal identification numbers used for meal service	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested children's names, ages or dates of birth, or grade levels when meals were picked up	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested children's school names or a copy of school correspondence when meals were picked up	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested the number of children for which the parent/guardian was picking up meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Provided parents/guardians with rear view mirror hangers, placards, or QR codes	○	○	○	○	○	○
Posted signage to indicate who is eligible to pick up and receive meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other method to ensure meals distributed only to parent/guardians of eligible children (specify)	○	○	○	○	○	○
Did not use any methods to ensure meals were distributed only to parents/guardians of eligible children	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

For institutions that used the *Nationwide Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup Waiver* for CACFP approximately what proportion used the following methods to ensure that meals were distributed only to parents or guardians of eligible children?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
Scanned children's meal cards or asked for children's personal identification numbers used for meal service	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested children's names, ages or dates of birth, or grade levels when meals were picked up	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested children's school names or a copy of school correspondence when meals were picked up	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested the number of children for which the parent/guardian was picking up meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Provided parents/guardians with rear view mirror hangers, placards, or QR codes	○	○	○	○	○	○
Posted signage to indicate who is eligible to pick up and receive meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other method to ensure meals distributed only to parent/guardians of eligible children (specify)	○	○	○	○	○	○
Did not use any methods to ensure meals were distributed only to parents/guardians of eligible children	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

For SFAs that used the *Nationwide Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup Waiver* for NSLP, SBP, or SSO, approximately what proportion used the following methods to ensure that duplicate meals were not distributed to any child?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
Told parents/guardians picking up meals that children are not eligible to receive duplicate meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Asked parents/guardians to self-attest that they were not picking up duplicate meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested children's names or other identifying information when meals were picked up	○	○	○	○	○	○
Used the same staff at multiple delivery sites (that provided meals at different times) located in a geographic area	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other method to ensure duplicate meals were not distributed (specify)	○	○	○	○	○	○
Did not use any methods to ensure that duplicate meals were not distributed	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

For institutions that used the *Nationwide Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup Waiver* for CACFP, approximately what proportion used the following methods to ensure that duplicate meals were not distributed to any child?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
Told parents/guardians picking up meals that children are not eligible to receive duplicate meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Asked parents/guardians to self-attest that they were not picking up duplicate meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Requested children's names or other identifying information when meals were picked up	○	○	○	○	○	○
Used the same staff at multiple delivery sites (that provided meals at different times) located in a geographic area	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other method to ensure duplicate meals were not distributed (specify)	○	○	○	○	○	○
Did not use any methods to ensure that duplicate meals were not distributed	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

14

For SFAs that used the *Area Eligibility Waiver* for NSLP approximately what proportion used the following methods to target children who were previously or newly eligible for benefits using the following approaches?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
No methods used- all sites approved as area eligible	○	○	○	○	○	○
Analyzed unemployment data	○	○	○	○	○	○
Analyzed prior year school meals eligibility data	○	○	○	○	○	○
Identified site(s) that were area eligible in prior years	○	○	○	○	○	○
Targeted near-eligible sites, such as sites where 40% of children were eligible for free or reduced-price meals	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other approach to select meal sites (specify)	○	○	○	○	○	○
Did not use any methods to target new meal sites	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

15

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

For sponsors that used the *Area Eligibility Waiver* for CACFP approximately what proportion targeted new meal sites to serve children who were previously or newly eligible for benefits using the following approaches?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators				
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All
No methods used- all sites approved as area eligible	○	○	○	○	○
Analyzed unemployment data	○	○	○	○	○
Analyzed prior year school meals eligibility data	○	○	○	○	○
Identified site(s) that were area eligible in prior years	○	○	○	○	○
Targeted near-eligible sites, such as sites where 40% of children were eligible for free or reduced-price meals	○	○	○	○	○
Other approach to select meal sites (specify)	○	○	○	○	○
Did not use any methods to target new meal sites	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

16

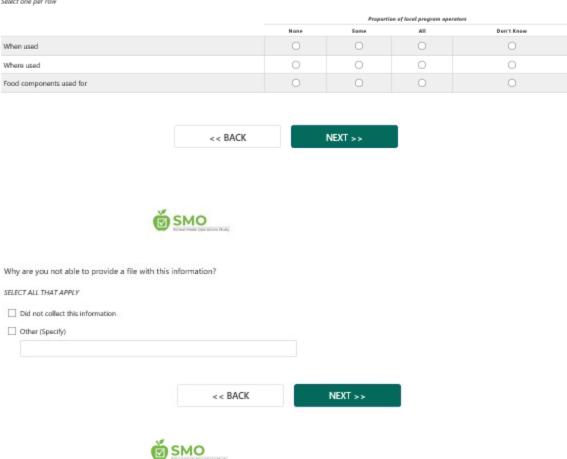For each program, did use of the [WAIVER] improve services to children in the following ways?

Select all that apply

	NSLP	SBP	SSO	CACFP	Don't Know	Know
Site Options						
Greater geographic distribution of sites	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Increased number of sites	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Increased alternative meal delivery methods	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Meal Options						
Allowed pick up of multiple meals at one time	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Allowed distribution of bulk food packages	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Allowed service of available foods when supply issues occurred	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Other						
Improved safety for children by not requiring congregate feeding or meal pick-up	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Reduced barriers to receiving meals	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○
Increased participation	☐	☐	☐	☐	○	○

Other way services to children improved in *NSLP* (specify) [   ]

Other way services to children improved in *SBP* (specify) [   ]

Other way services to children improved in *SSO* (specify) [   ]

Other way services to children improved in *CACFP* (specify) [   ]

<< BACK   NEXT >>

States that implemented the *Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver* are required to report when and where the waiver was in effect and for what food components. Please submit a file with this information.

○ Continue to instructions for file submission 1 Submit file(s) via email or the file transfer site

○ Unable to submit file

<< BACK   NEXT >>

What extent of information on *Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver* use by local program operators is included in the file?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators			
	None	Some	All	Don't Know
When used	○	○	○	○
Where used	○	○	○	○
Food components used for	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

Why are you not able to provide a file with this information?

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

☐ Did not collect this information

☐ Other (Specify)

[   ]

<< BACK   NEXT >>

For each program, please indicate which food component requirements local program operators waived with the *Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver*.

Select all that apply

	Grains	Fruits	Vegetables	Meat/meat alternates	Milk	Don't Know
National School Lunch Program	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
School Breakfast Program	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Seamless Summer Option	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Child and Adult Care Food Program	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

18

For each program, please indicate which vegetable subgroup requirements local program operators waived with the *Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver*.

Select all that apply

	Dark Green	Red/Orange	Starchy	Legumes	Other	Don't Know
National School Lunch Program	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Seamless Summer Option	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

Approximately what proportion of local program operators waived requirements for two or more food components in each program with the *Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver?*

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
National School Lunch Program	○	○	○	○	○	○
School Breakfast Program	○	○	○	○	○	○
Seamless Summer Option	○	○	○	○	○	○
Child and Adult Care Food Program	○	○	○	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

19

B. [WAIVER]

This section asks about use of the [WAIVER]. Please answer the following questions focusing on use of the waiver during SY 2021-2022.

| << BACK | NEXT >> |

For which Child Nutrition Programs did local program operators use the [WAIVER]?

Local program operators include School Food Authorities (**SFAs**)

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

☐ National School Lunch Program

☐ School Breakfast Program

| << BACK | NEXT >> |

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

How many SFAs used the [WAIVER] for NSLP?

Please enter the number of SFAs that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[ ] NUMBER OF SFAS

○ Actual number of SFAs, data provided by all SFAs
○ Estimated number of SFAs, data not provided by all SFAs
○ Don't know- data not collected

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

How many SFAs used the [WAIVER] for SBP?

Please enter the number of SFAs that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[ ] NUMBER OF SFAS

○ Actual number of SFAs, data provided by all SFAs
○ Estimated number of SFAs, data not provided by all SFAs
○ Don't know- data not collected

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

How many SFAs used the [WAIVER] for SSO?

Please enter the number of SFAs that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[ ] NUMBER OF SFAS

○ Actual number of SFAs, data provided by all SFAs
○ Estimated number of SFAs, data not provided by all SFAs
○ Don't know- data not collected

<< BACK   NEXT >>

How many **institutions** that operate CACFP in childcare centers used the [WAIVER]?

Please enter the number of institutions that operate CACFP in childcare centers that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[   ] NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS THAT OPERATE CHILDCARE CENTERS

○ Actual number of **institutions** that operate childcare centers, data provided by all childcare centers

○ Estimated number of **institutions** that operate childcare centers, data not provided by all childcare centers

○ Don't know- data not collected

How many that operate CACFP in family daycare homes used the [WAIVER]?

Please enter the number of institutions that operate CACFP in family daycare homes that used the waiver during this timeframe and then select a corresponding response option to indicate whether this is the actual number or your best estimate. If you do not have enough information to provide a reasonably close estimate, please select "Don't Know."

[   ] NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS THAT OPERATE FAMILY DAYCARE HOMES

○ Actual number of institutions that operate family daycare homes, data provided by all family daycare homes

○ Estimated number of institutions that operate family daycare homes, data not provided by all family daycare homes

○ Don't know- data not collected

[<< BACK]   [NEXT >>]

For each program, approximately what proportion of local program operators used the [WAIVER]?

Select one per row

	Proportion of local program operators					
	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
National School Lunch Program	○	○	○	○	○	○
School Breakfast Program	○	○	○	○	○	○
Seamless Summer Option	○	○	○	○	○	○
Child and Adult Care Food Program	○	○	○	○	○	○

[<< BACK]   [NEXT >>]

SMO

Following implementation of the [WAIVER], approximately what proportion of SFAs, sponsors, or institutions conducted the following types of monitoring?

Select one per row

	None	Less than half	About half	More than half	All	Don't Know
Desk audit- paperwork review	○	○	○	○	○	○
Desk audit- interviews with site operators	○	○	○	○	○	○
Virtual observations conducted through live stream video	○	○	○	○	○	○
Virtual observations through review of site photos	○	○	○	○	○	○
On-site while assisting with or observing meal service	○	○	○	○	○	○
Other type of monitoring (specify) [____]	○	○	○	○	○	○
No monitoring conducted	○	○	○	○	○	○

[<< BACK] [NEXT >>]

SMO

For each program, did use of the [WAIVER] improve services to children in the following ways?

Select all that apply

	NSLP	SBP	SSO	CACFP	Don't Know
Increased administrative resources for identifying meal sites	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Increased administrative resources for addressing food supply issues and other challenges in preparing meals	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Increased administrative resources for providing meals	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Increased ability to focus administrative resources on other priority areas to improve services to children	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Increased ability of local program operators to begin operations more quickly	☐	☐	☐	☐	○

Other way services to children improved in NSLP (specify) [____]

Other way services to children improved in SBP (specify) [____]

Other way services to children improved in SSO (specify) [____]

Other way services to children improved in CACFP (specify) [____]

[<< BACK] [NEXT >>]

23

C. [WAIVER]

This section asks about use of the [WAIVER]. Please answer the following questions focusing on use of the waiver during SY 2021-2022.

<< BACK   NEXT >>

Following your State agency's implementation of the [WAIVER], in what ways, if any, did your State agency conduct monitoring?

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

☐ Desk audit- paperwork review

☐ Desk audit- interviews with SFAs, sponsors, or institutions

☐ Virtual observations through review of site photos

☐ Virtual observations conducted through live stream video

☐ On-site socially distanced observations

☐ Other (*Specify*)

[   ]

○ No monitoring conducted

<< BACK   NEXT >>

During **SY 2021-2022**, for approximately what percentage of all SFAs in your State did your agency conduct administrative reviews using the *Administrative Reviews of School Food Authorities Operating Only the Seamless Summer Option Waiver*?

○ Less than 10 percent

○ 10–20 percent

○ 21–30 percent

○ 31–40 percent

○ 41–50 percent

○ More than 50 percent

○ Don't know

<< BACK   NEXT >>

/

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

Did use of the [WAIVER] improve services to children in the following ways?

Select one per row

	Yes	No	Don't Know
Increased State Agency administrative resources for approving meal sites	○	○	○
Increased State and local administrative resources for identifying meal sites	○	○	○
Increased State Agency ability to focus administrative resources on other priority areas to improve services to children	○	○	○
Increased State Agency ability to provide technical assistance to local program operators	○	○	○
Increased local program operators' administrative resources for providing meals to children	○	○	○
Increased local program operators' ability to focus administrative resources on other priority areas to improve services to children	○	○	○
Other way services to children improved (specify) _____	○	○	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

Now we have a few questions about operational and financial challenges that your State Agency experienced administering Child Nutrition Programs during SY 2021-2022.

[<< BACK] [NEXT >>]

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

Did your State agency experience any financial challenges with administering Child Nutrition Programs during SY 2021-2022?

○ Yes

○ No

[<< BACK] [NEXT >>]

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

What factors contributed to financial challenges your State agency experienced with administering each program during SY 2021-2022?

Select all that apply

	NSLP	SBP	SSO	SFSP	CACFP	Don't Know
Added new staff	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Increased staff hours	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Staff overtime	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
IT system changes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Other (specify)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○

[<< BACK] [NEXT >>]

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

What other factors contributed to financial challenges *your State agency* experienced with administering each program during SY 2021-2022?

[ ]

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

Did *your State agency* experience any operational challenges with administering Child Nutrition Programs during SY 2021-2022? SY 2021-2022?

○ Yes
○ No

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

SY 2021-2022?

What factors contributed to *operational* challenges your *State agency* experienced administering each program during the federally declared COVID-19 public health emergency, from March through September 2020?

Select all that apply

	NSLP	SBP	SSO	SFSP	CACFP	Don't Know
Resources needed to review and approve waiver requests from providers	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Resources needed to approve meal sites	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Resources needed to assist providers with identification of meal sites	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Resources needed to provide technical assistance to local program operators	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Limitations on ability to hire new staff	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Unexpected staff training needs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Redesigning monitoring approaches (for example, from onsite to virtual)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Implementing IT system changes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Office closures	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Unclear guidance from FNS	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Untimely guidance from FNS	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Insufficient technical assistance from FNS	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○
Other (specify)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	○

<< BACK   NEXT >>

28

What other factors contributed to *operational* challenges your *State agency* experienced administering each program during the federally declared COVID-19 public health emergency, from March through September 2020?

[ ]

<< BACK | NEXT >>

Did your State agency experience any challenges with implementing or using the COVID-19 Child Nutrition waivers during SY 2021-2022?

○ Yes

○ No

<< BACK | NEXT >>

What factors assisted your State agency's efforts to overcome challenges with implementing or using the COVID-19 Child Nutrition waivers?

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

☐ Timely technical assistance from FNS Regional Office

☐ Comprehensive technical assistance from FNS Regional Office

☐ Timely guidance and clarification from FNS National Office

☐ Comprehensive guidance and clarification from FNS National Office

☐ Collaboration with local program operators

☐ Collaboration with suppliers or food vendors

☐ Other (*Specify*)

[ ]

<< BACK | NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

Of the challenges your State agency experienced in implementing or using the COVID-19 Child Nutrition waivers, which were you unable to overcome?

```
[                                                            ]
```

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

Is there anything else FNS should know about use or impacts of the nationwide COVID-19 Child Nutrition waivers during SY 2021-2022?

```
[                                                            ]
```

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

Is there anything else FNS should know about State and local efforts to provide Child Nutrition Program meals during SY 2021-2022?

```
[                                                            ]
```

<< BACK   NEXT >>

SMO
School Meals Operations Study

You have answered all the questions. Thank you for completing this survey!

You may now close your browser.