

2017 Summer Nutrition Program Fact Sheet Gaston County, NC

Overview of the Federal Summer Nutrition Programs for Children

- Many children receiving free and reduced-price meals through the School Breakfast and National School Lunch Program are at greater risk of hunger during the summer.
- Lack of nutrition during the summer makes students more likely to fall behind during the school year and experience health issues.
- Federally-funded Summer Nutrition Programs reimburse providers for serving free, healthy meals to children and teens ages 18 and younger in low-income areas during the summer.

2017 County Highlights

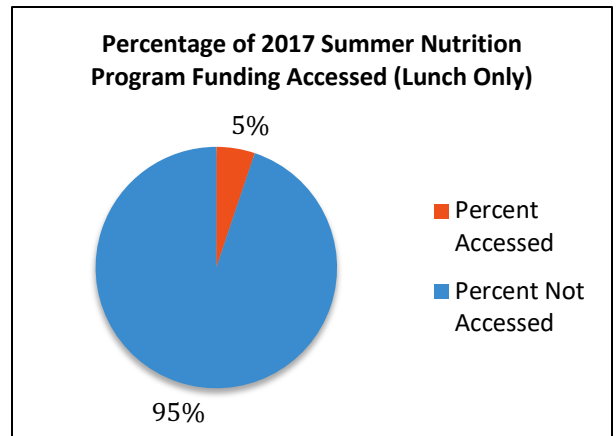
- **Number of Sponsors:** 1 sponsor administered the program.
- **Number of Sites:** 73 sites served free summer meals.
- **Days of Service:** Sites served meals between 4 and 48 days, with an average of 23 days.
- **Meals Served:** 96,829 total meals were served during the Summer of 2017.
- **Need:** During the 2016-17 school year, 21,031 children were eligible for free and reduced-price meals.
- **Average Daily Attendance (ADA):** ADA in the summer nutrition program was 1,994 children¹.

Estimated Percent Need Met Through the 2017 Summer Nutrition Program²

Gaston County	Statewide Average	NC County Rank (out of 100 counties)
9.48%	12.06%	54

Summer Nutrition Program Builds the Local Economy³

- Up to two meals or snacks are reimbursable at each site daily, and can be served seven days a week.
- If every student eligible for free and reduced-price meals received only lunch Monday-Friday (55 days) during the summer, **\$4,360,778** would have been brought into the county.
- For lunch only, **\$225,298** was brought into the county, with **\$4,135,480** not accessed.



¹ ADA was calculated using the instructions provided by USDA. It is based on July 2017 data and was calculated by dividing the number of meals served during each site's primary meal service by the number of operating days. ADA for all sites in the county were added together.

² Percent need met was calculated using the sum of the ADA in July 2017 for all sites in a county divided by the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals during the 2016-17 school year.

³ Potential reimbursements are conservative estimates based on the lower Summer Food Service Program meal reimbursement rate (\$3.77). Potential reimbursement is calculated as the number of eligible children x the rate x 55 serving days (based on weekdays, but weekend meals can also be reimbursed).