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NOT ADMITTED DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA\*

April 6, 1982

### HAND DELIVERED

The Honorable Bob Dole  
2213 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Attention: Ms. Chris Bolten

Re: School Lunch

Dear Senator Dole:

Please find attached the latest school lunch participation statistics as published by the Department of Agriculture. From December 1980 to December 1981, participation declined 3.4 million students, 1.3 million of which were children formerly receiving a free or reduced price lunch.

Approximately 3,000 schools terminated participation in the National School Lunch Program during the same period. As 700 schools normally close their doors each year, over 2,000 functioning schools appear to have been forced from the lunch program as a result of the enactment of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981.

Si

Counsel, American School  
Food Service Association

MLM/tlr  
Enclosure

# NEWS

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

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Washington, D.C. 20250

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Governmental  
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## PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RESULTS FOR DECEMBER 1981

WASHINGTON, March 2--Preliminary estimates of participation in the federal-state food assistance programs December 1981 with comparisons to the previous month and to the same month of last year were announced today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service. They are:

	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1981
THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM:			
People participating this month (millions)...	22.2	21.8	21.9 ✓
Value of bonus coupons (millions).....	\$759.0	\$855.1	\$864.1
Average bonus per person .....	\$34.18	\$39.28	\$39.53
THE FAMILY FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM:			
Number of projects in operation.....	68	77	78
People participating this month (thousands)...	70.4	70.0	71.0
THE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM (WIC):			
People participating this month (millions)...	2.244	2.021	2.042
Federal food costs (millions) <u>a</u> /.....	\$ 64.3	\$ 57.2	\$ 57.8
THE COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM:			
Number of projects in operation.....	21	21	21
People participating this month (thousands)...	108.6	121.7	119.6

- more -

	Dec. 1980	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1981
THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM:			
Number of schools taking part <u>b/</u> .....:	93,800	90,903	90,903
Children participating this month (millions):	26.7	23.2	23.3
Children reached with free or reduced- priced lunches this month (millions).....:	12.8	11.5	11.5
Percentage of lunches served free.....:	40.4	42.4	42.1
Percentage of lunches served at reduced price.....:	7.4	7.2	7.2

THE SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM:

Number of schools taking part <u>b/</u> .....:	34,375	33,883	33,883
Children participating this month (millions):	3.9	3.5	3.4
Percentage of breakfasts served free or at reduced price.....:	86.5	88.1	88.3

THE CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM:

Number of outlets taking part.....:	54,300	68,800	66,400
Children participating this month (thousands):	757.0	857.5	837.6

a/ Due to monthly fluctuations, the Federal administrative expenditures are excluded from this program.

b/ These data are collected semi-annually (October and March). Figures for the latest available month (October) are listed.