

Each School Year Low-Income Minnesota Children are Missing 29 Million Breakfast Meals

1. Need: 300,000 school-aged children in Minnesota are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals

2. Scope: a study by the University of Minnesota estimated childhood food insecurity costs our state **\$642 million annually**.

3. Underutilization: Minnesota school districts are only serving 39% of the available meals under the School Breakfast Program.



4. Consequences:

Hungry children are 2 times more likely to repeat a grade

Food insecure children are 3 times more likely to suffer from poor health

Hungry teens are 2 times as likely to suffer from depression and 5 times more likely to commit suicide

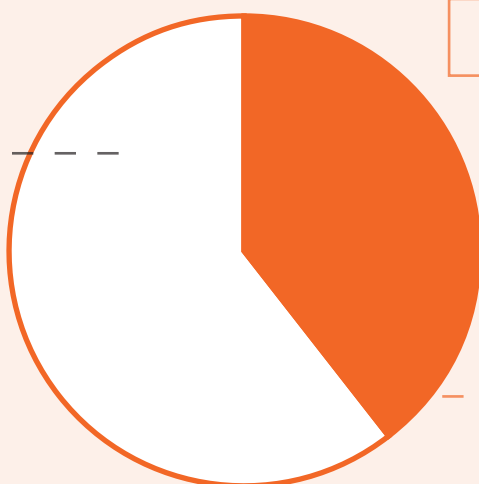
Hungry school-age children are 3 times more likely to be suspended from school

Performance Gap

The **School Breakfast Program** feeds hungry children for free or at reduced costs but is underused. Minnesota children collectively experience a gap of 29 million meals a school year. At full potential, the program can feed **48 million meals**.

The Missing Meals Gap:

29 million meals



2010-2011 School Breakfast Meals

19 million served meals

Benefits of Closing the Gap

Revenue:

Schools could generate an additional

\$50 million

and

business that sell food to schools could generate an additional

\$23 million

each school year

Human Impact:

Compared to children who skip breakfast, a Minnesota study showed that those who ate breakfast in school:

