

STOP SUMMER HUNGER

During the school year, children from low-income families can receive free or reduced-price meals at school. But when school is out of session for summer, millions of these same children can face hunger and food insecurity. The Stop Child Summer Hunger Act would reduce hunger for these children by helping their families afford food during the summer break.

SUMMER HUNGER

One in five U.S. households with kids struggles with food insecurity, meaning the family has limited or uncertain access to food.



In the summer months, research shows that hunger for families with school-age children increases by:



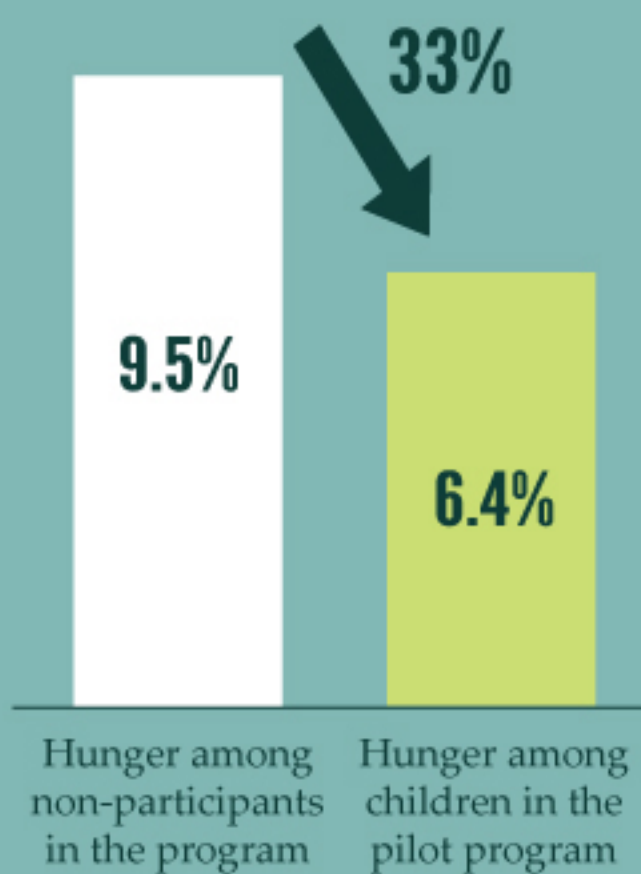
During the school year, millions of students have access to free or reduced-price meals. But in the summer, many of those same kids lose access to regular meals. In 2012, 86 percent of kids did not take part in summer meals programs.



THE STOP CHILD SUMMER HUNGER ACT

The Stop Child Summer Hunger Act, introduced by Senator Patty Murray, would reduce child hunger during the summer break by helping families buy groceries to help replace the meals that children would otherwise get at school.

The bill is based on a pilot program with proven success. Overall, the pilot reduced very low food security, often called hunger, by 33 percent.

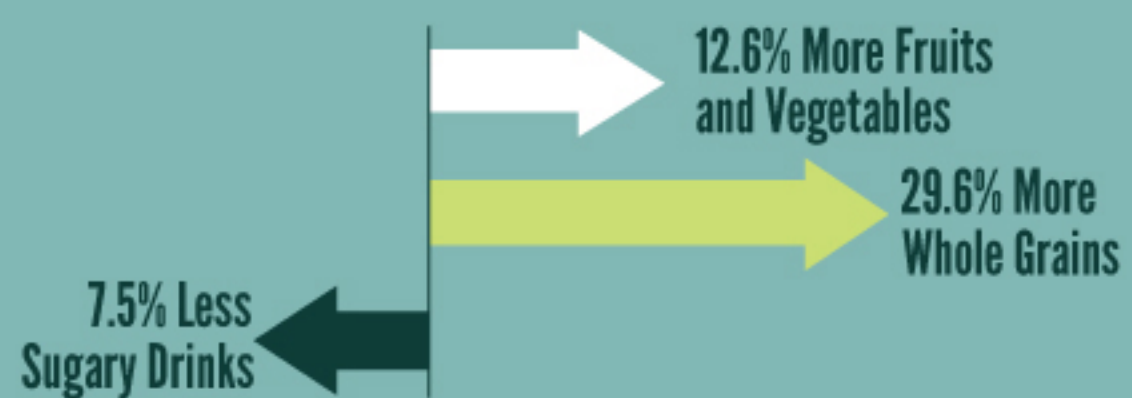


Some of the pilot programs had a participation rate of

90 Percent



The pilot program also resulted in kids getting more healthful foods. When compared to non-participants, kids consumed on average:



“The threat of hunger doesn’t take a summer break. We shouldn’t either. We must do more to make sure kids get the nutrition they need to learn, grow, and thrive.”

- SENATOR PATTY MURRAY

Sources:
Food insecurity by household: http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/-food-security-in-the-us/key-statistics-graphics.aspx#.U3E_F_IdWSg
Hunger in the summer: Nord and Romig, “Hunger in the Summer,” September, 2006.
Participation in the federal summer meals program: http://frac.org/pdf/2013_summer_nutrition_report.pdf
Information on the pilot program: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/SEBTC2012.pdf>

Find more details at <http://murray.senate.gov>

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