Mississippi

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

2015 Farm to School Census Responses

The responses for this district are shown below. Please note this is self-reported data and may conflict with other data sources.

Participation

Did your district or any schools in your district participate in farm to school activities during the 2013-2014 school year?

- **Yes, doing farm to school in 2013-2014 school year**

All possible answers
- Yes, doing farm to school in 2013-2014 school year
- No, but started farm to school in 2014-2015 school year
- No, but plan to start farm to school in the future
- No farm to school activities currently and no plans for the future.

During the 2013-2014 school year, what age groups participated in farm to school activities?

- **Pre-K participated in farm to school activities.**
- **Grades 6-8 participated in farm to school activities.**

All possible answers
- Pre-K participated in farm to school activities.
- Grades K-5 participated in farm to school activities.
- Grades 6-8 participated in farm to school activities.
- Grades 9-12 participated in farm to school activities.

Are you participating in the Child and Adult Care food program (CACFP)?

- **Yes**

All possible answers
- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Benefits

Which of the following benefits have you enjoyed as result of participating in farm to school activities?

- **Other: We planted a garden so that the children could learn where some of their food comes from then also was able to use it to cook or use within the school staff.**

All possible answers
- Enjoying reduced food waste as a benefit of farm to school
- Enjoying lower school meal program costs as a benefit of farm to school
- Enjoying greater acceptance of the new meal pattern as a benefit of farm to school
- Enjoying increased participation in school meals as a benefit of farm to school
- Enjoying greater community support for school meals as a benefit of farm to school

Local

How does your district define "local" as it relates to your food procurement?

- **Produced within the region**

All possible answers
- Same city/county
- Produced within a 50 mile radius
- Produced within a 100 mile radius
- Produced within a 200 mile radius
- Produced within a day's drive
- Produced within the state
- Produced within the region
- Geographic along with other restrictions

Please indicate if your district or any schools in your district purchased any of the following foods - IN ANY FORM - from local growers/producers/processers/manufacturers during the 2013-2014 school year or would like to in the future?

- ***Fruit:*** **Not now, but would like to in the future**
- ***Vegetables:*** **Not now, but would like to in the future**
- ***Fluid milk:*** **No**
- ***Other dairy:*** **No**
- ***Meat/poultry:*** **No**
- ***Eggs:*** **No**
- ***Seafood:*** **No**
- ***Plant-based protein items such as beans, seeds, and nuts:*** **No**
- ***Grains and flour:*** **No**
- ***Bakery products:*** **No**
- ***Herbs:*** **No**
- ***Other food:*** **No**

All possible answers
- Yes
- No
- Not now, but would like to in the future
- I don't know

Please list the top 5 SPECIFIC food items (e.g. apples, chicken drumsticks) your school district purchased locally in the 2013-2014 school year based on VALUE.

- ORANGES
- BANANAS
- APPLES
- LETTUCE
- TOMATOES

On average, about how frequently do your district's meals or snacks include at least one locally sourced food item from the categories below?

- ***Fruit:*** **Never**
- ***Vegetables:*** **Never**
- ***Fluid milk:*** **Never**
- ***Other dairy:*** **Never**
- ***Meat/poultry:*** **Never**
- ***Eggs:*** **Never**
- ***Seafood:*** **Never**
- ***Plant-based protein items such as beans, seeds, and nuts:*** **Never**
- ***Grains and flour:*** **Never**
- ***Bakery products:*** **Never**
- ***Herbs:*** **Never**
- ***Other food:*** **Never**

All possible answers
- Daily
- More than weekly
- Weekly
- More than monthly
- Monthly
- Occasionally
- Never

Are any of the following considered to be problems in procuring local products or reasons why your district does not purchase even more local products?

- **I am not aware of what other schools in the district are doing**

All possible answers
- Local producers aren't bidding
- GAP or other food safety requirements
- Lack of compliance with your institution's purchasing regulations and policies
- Lack of availability of processed/precut products
- Hard to find new suppliers/growers or distributors
- Hard to get information about product availability
- Hard to place orders with vendors
- Getting on time deliveries
- Getting product delivered that meets your quality requirements & other specs (i.e., size)
- Having quantity delivered equal to quantity ordered
- Resolving problem deliveries
- Hard to find year-round availability of key items
- Inability to pay farmers according to farmers' needs due to school district payment procedures
- Hard to coordinate procurement of local with regular procurement
- Local items not available from primary vendors
- Vendors for local items don't offer a broad range of products
- Higher prices
- Unstable product prices
- Lack of reliability in delivering ordered items
- Lack of kitchen equipment to process/prepare local foods.

For the 2013-2014 school year, please indicate whether your district obtained local foods directly from the following sources.

- **Obtains local food direct from food processors and manufacturers**

All possible answers
- Obtains local food direct from individual food producers (i.e. farmers, fishers, ranchers)
- Obtains local food direct from farmer, rancher, or fisher cooperatives
- Obtains local food direct from farmers markets
- Obtains local food via a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model
- Obtains local food direct from food processors and manufacturers

For the 2013-2014 school year, please indicate whether your district obtained local foods from any of the following intermediary sources.

- **Obtains local food from distributors**
- **Obtains local food from USDA foods**

All possible answers
- Obtains local food from distributors
- Obtains local food from food buying cooperative
- Obtains local food from food hub
- Obtains local food from food service management companies
- Obtains local food from DoD Fresh Program vendors
- Obtains local food from USDA foods
- Obtains local food from State Farm to School program office

Economic Impacts

For the 2013-2014 school year, what were your approximate total food costs (in dollars)?

- **$28,000**

Looking forward do you anticipate your local purchases will increase, decrease or stay the same?

- **Stay the same**

All possible answers
- Increase
- Decrease
- Stay the same
- Other

Activities

To the best of your knowledge, approximately how many schools had salad bars during the 2013-2014 school year?

- **2**

Stories

Is there other information that was not asked for that you think we need to know?

- **no**

Can't find your district?

It's because USDA does not have a record for your school district.