#### Note to Viewers

This PowerPoint presentation includes preliminary findings from the School Nutrition Dietary Assessment Study-III (SNDA-3). These findings are subject to revision when the final SNDA-3 findings are published.



# **FNS School Meals...**



# **Do They Measure Up?**

Alberta Frost Patricia McKinney USDA Food and Nutrition Service Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation

ANC 06 Los Angeles, California July 16, 2006



#### School Nutrition Dietary Assessment Study-3 (SNDA-3)

**History in the Making** 



The School Nutrition Dietary Assessment Study

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

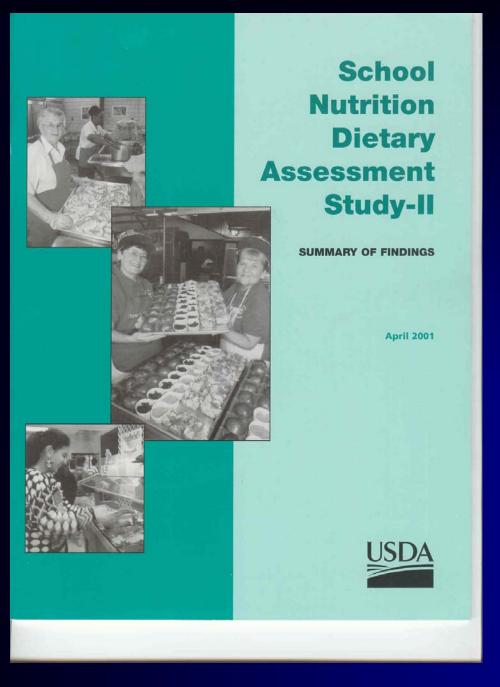


Prepared by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., Princeton, NJ, under Contract with the Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

#### **SNDA-I** 1993

Data from School year 1991-92





SNDA-2 2001

Data from School year 1998-99



## A few things that we learned from SNDA-1 and SNDA-2

Schools had made significant progress

- Average meals offered were lower in total fat and saturated fat
- More schools offered the opportunity to select meals that met the total fat and saturated fat targets
- Surprise...students selections are not often those most consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans

There remained significant room for improvement in the nutritional quality of meals offered and selected

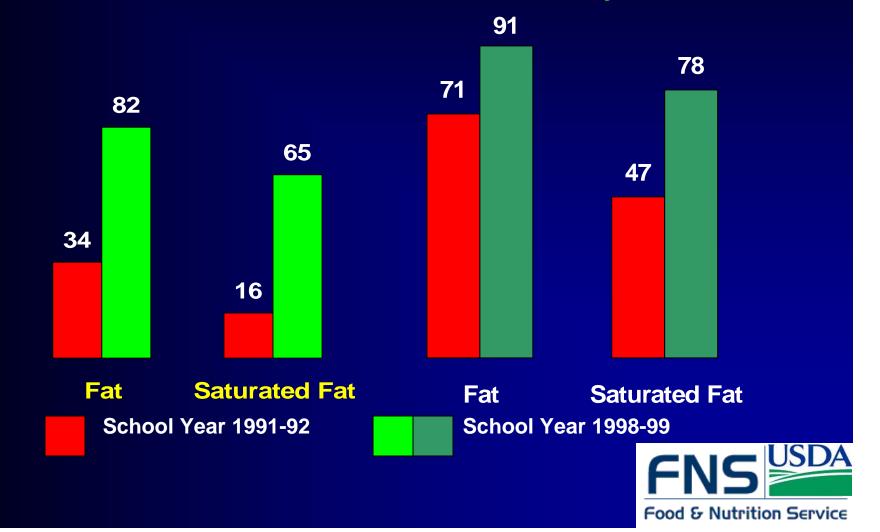


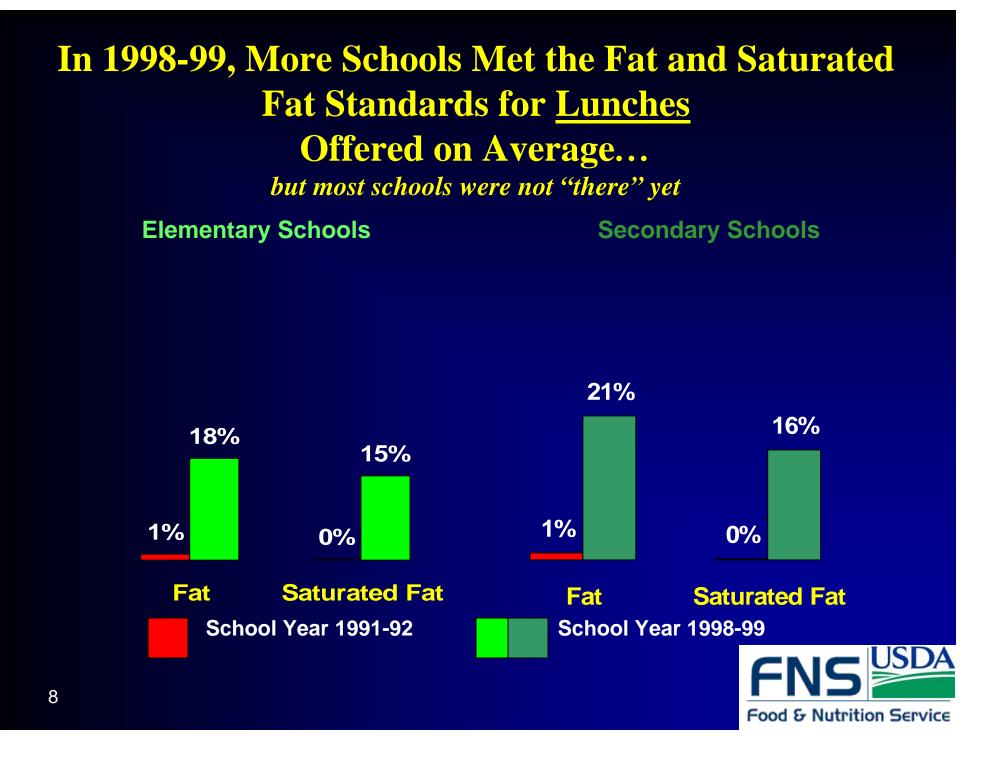
#### In 1998-99 More Schools Offered Students the Opportunity to Select a Low Fat <u>Lunch</u>

...but even a dietitian couldn't select a low fat NSLP meal at 10 to 35% of schools

#### **Elementary Schools**

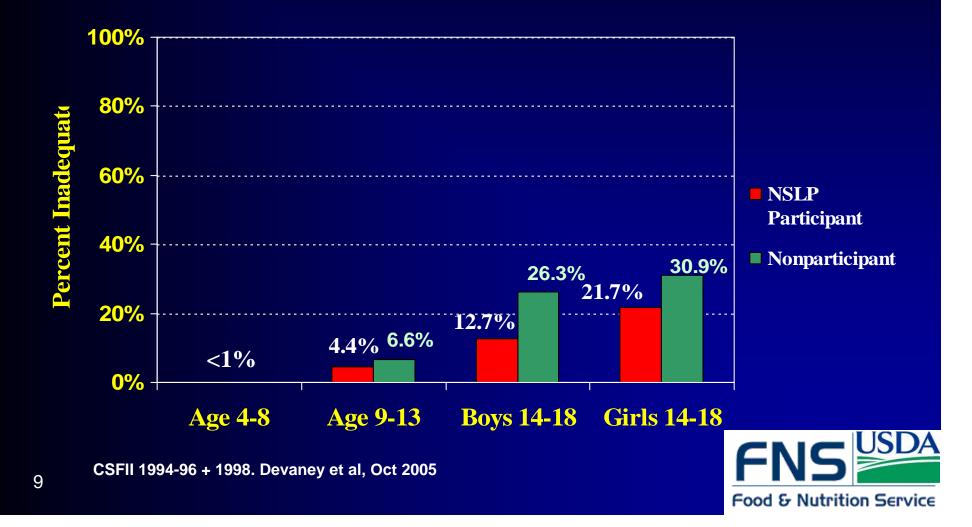
**Secondary Schools** 





#### **DRI Paradigm Shift**

Assessing Percent Inadequate or Excessive Not Just Mean Intake Vitamin C 1994-96 + 1998 by NSLP Participation Percent of School-Aged Children With Inadequate Usual Intake of Vitamin C





- Nationally representative of all public schools participating in the NSLP
- Data on meals offered and meals served as well as student's 24-hour dietary intake
- 129 SFAs in 36 States
- 395 Schools
- 2300 Students in those schools
- Data collected in Spring 2005

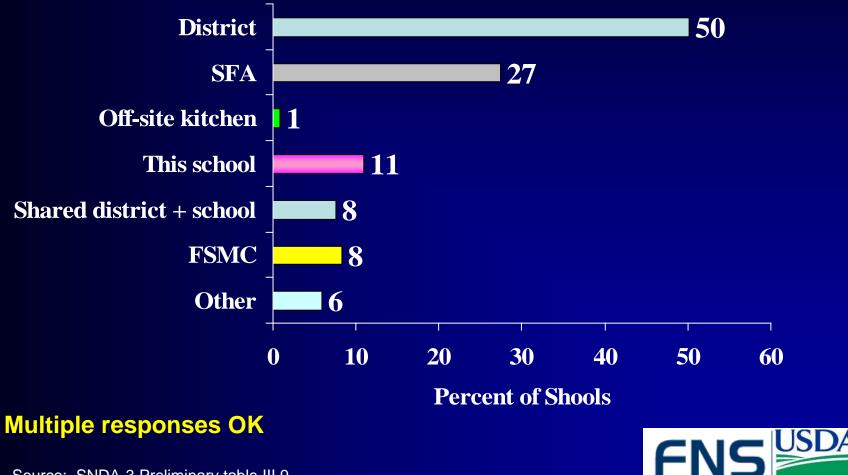


## **Thank you**

Alabama Arizona California Colorado Connecticut Florida Georgia Illinois Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Nebraska New Jersey New Mexico New York North Carolina Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania South Carolina Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia Washington Wisconsin Wyoming



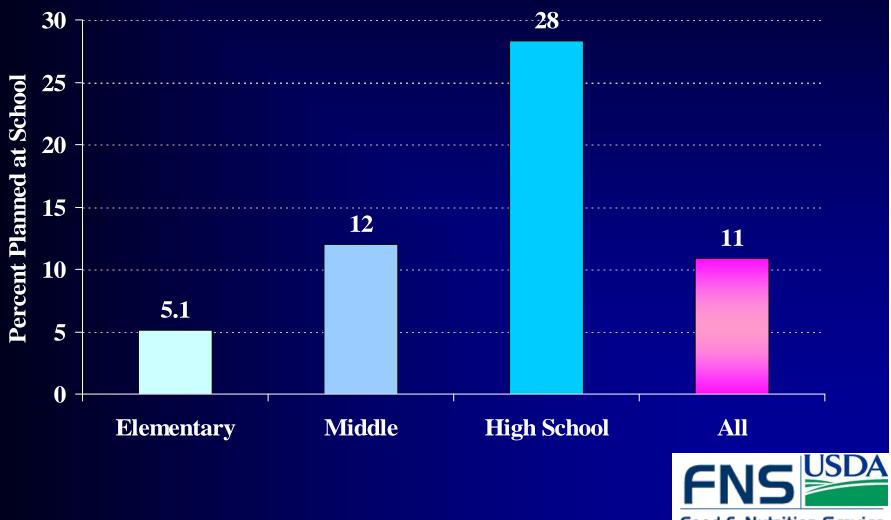
## Who Plans the School Meals?



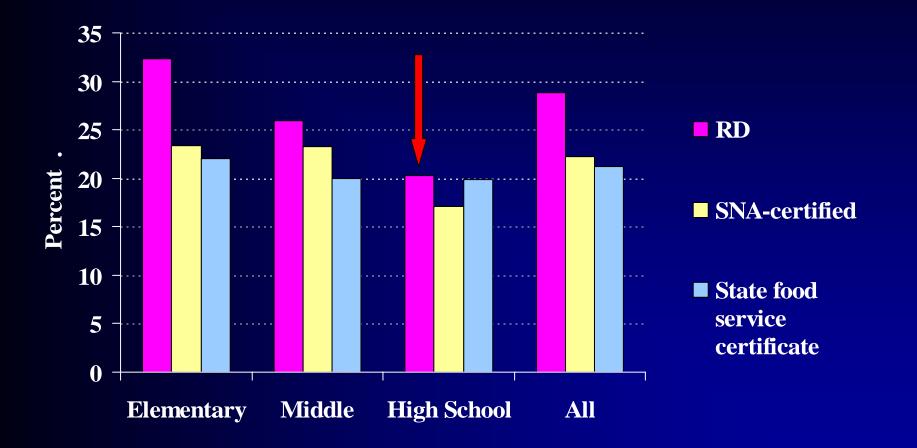
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## High Schools are More Likely to Plan Their Own Menus

**Rather than use District Level Planning** 

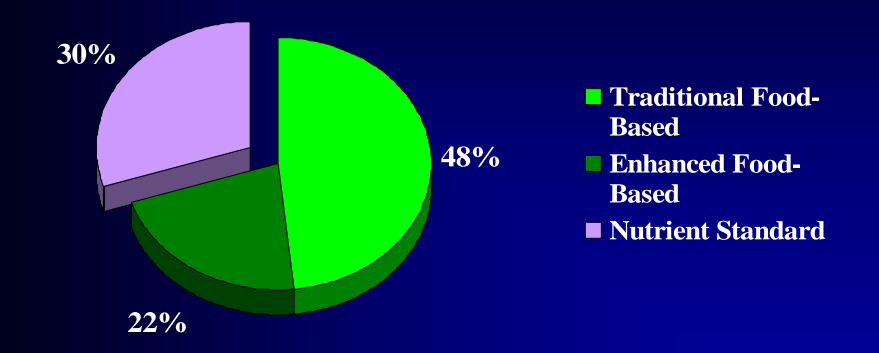


#### Fewer High Schools Have Registered Dietitians Planning Menus





## 70% Of Schools Use Food-Based Menu Planning



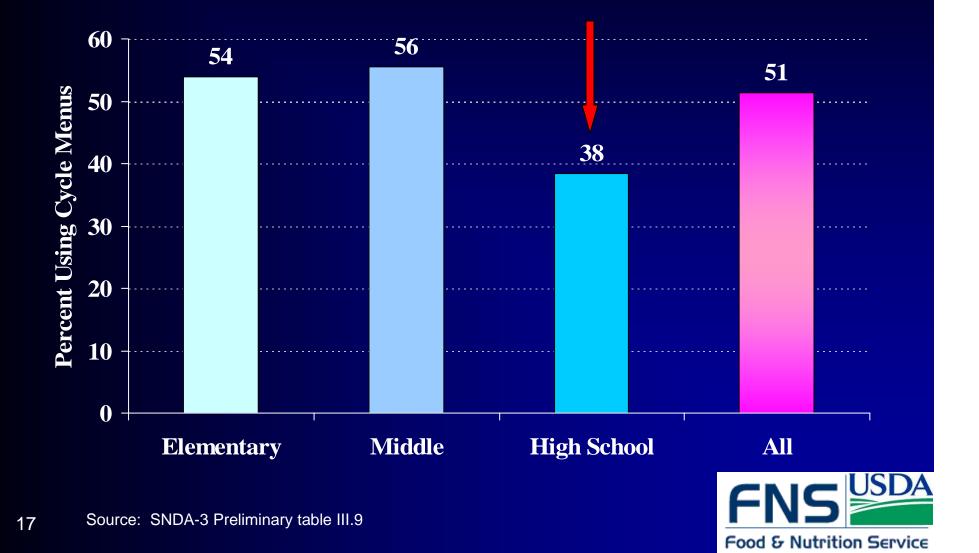


#### At Least Half of Schools Use These USDA Materials to Assist in Menu Planning

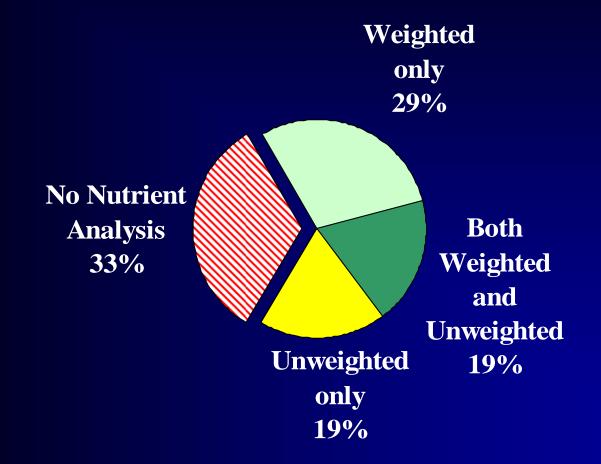
USDA Tool	<b>Percent Using</b>
Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs	78%
Serve It Safe: A Tool Kit (2 <sup>nd</sup> edition)	52%
Menu Planner for Healthy School Meals	52%
Healthy School Meals Training Program	51%
Fruits and Vegetables Galore	50%



#### High Schools Are Less Likely to Use Cycle Menus

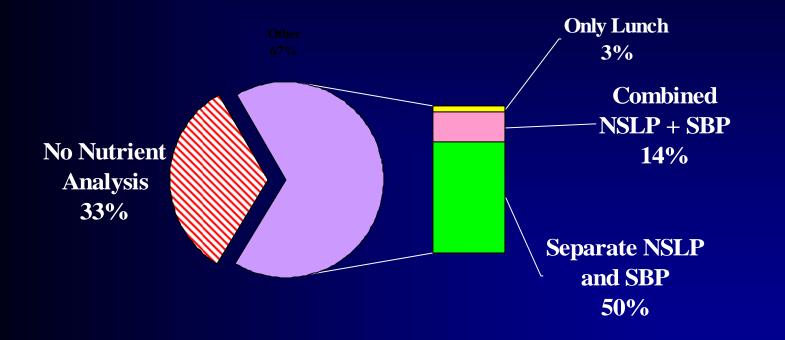


#### 2/3 of Schools do Nutrient Analysis SY2004-05



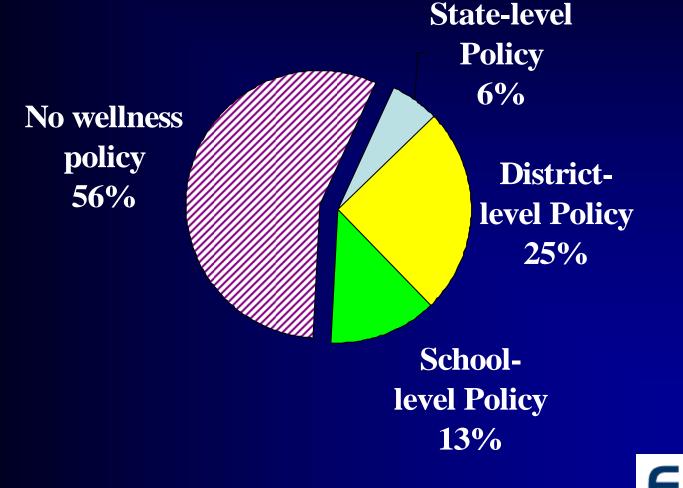


#### 2/3 of Schools do Nutrient Analysis Most of these separate Lunch and Breakfast



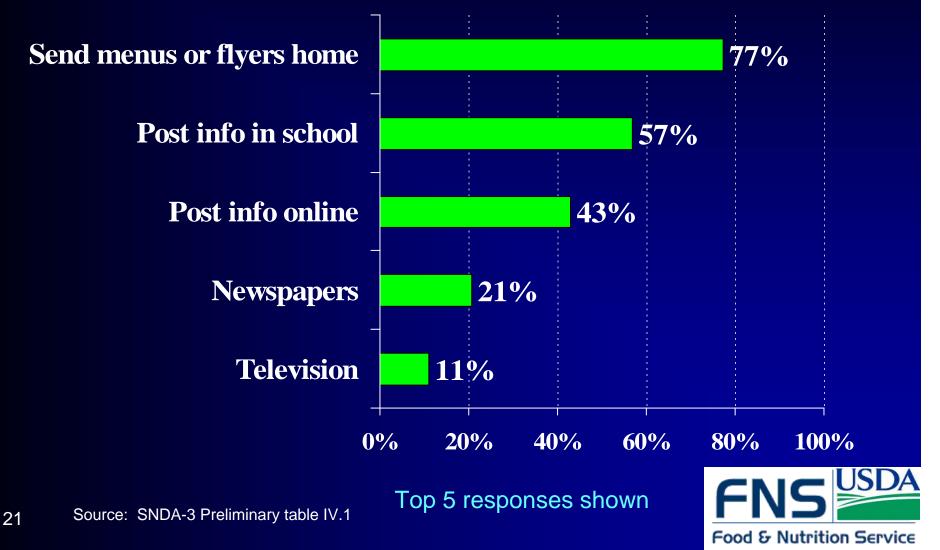


#### In Spring 2005, Almost Half of Schools Had a State, District or Local Wellness Policy Addressing Student Nutrition and Physical Activity

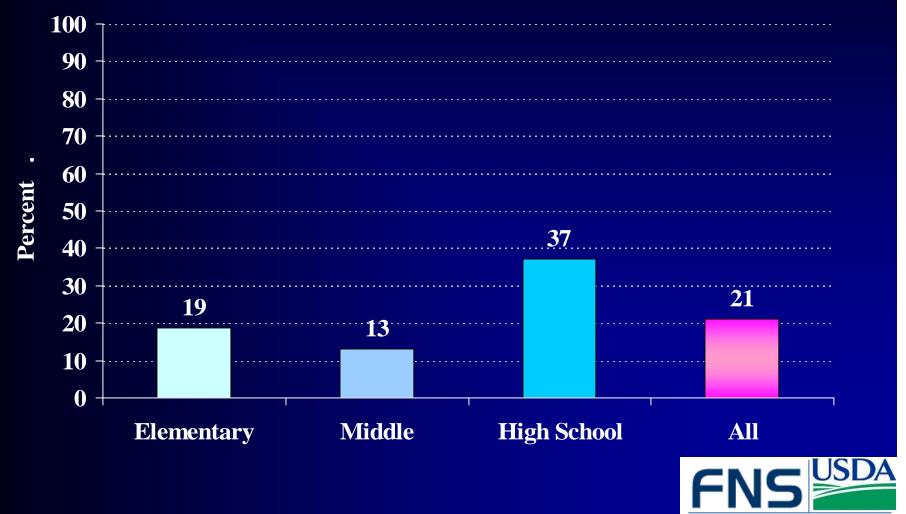




#### 61% of Schools Routinely Make Meal Nutrient Information Available Here's how this 61% share this information:



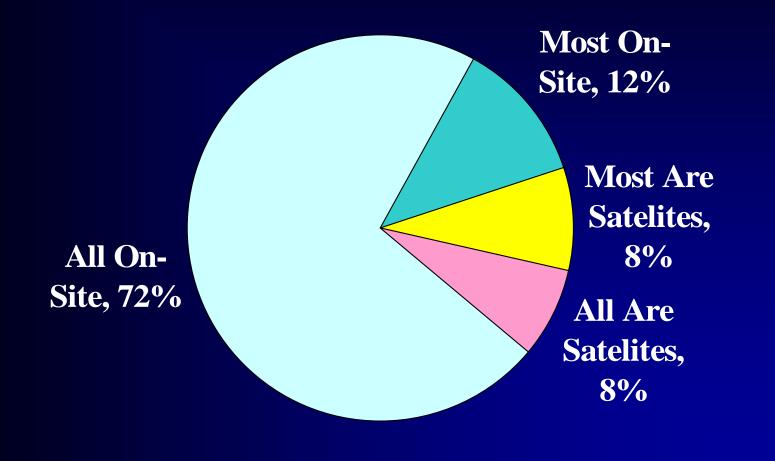
## Percent of Schools with a Nutrition or Health Advisory Council SY2004-05



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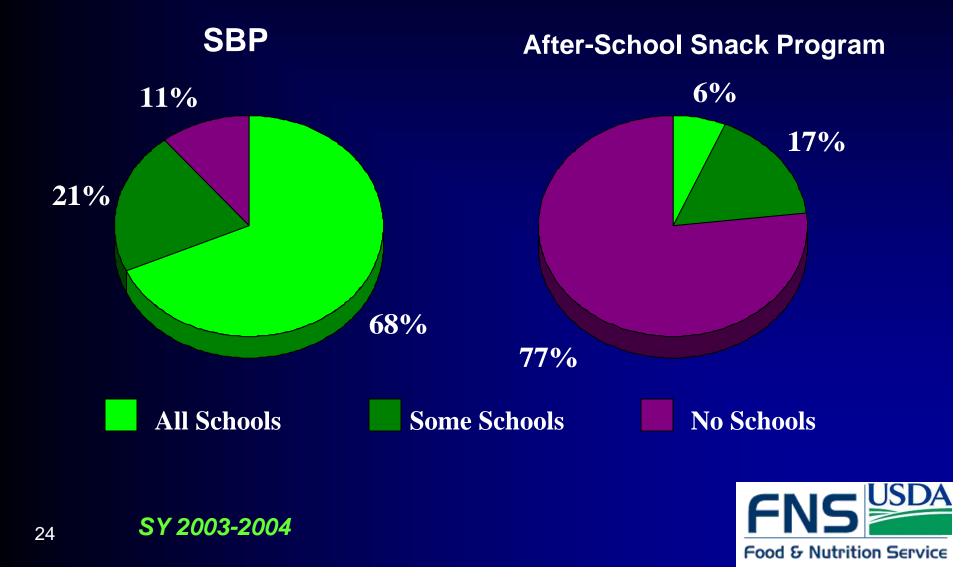
#### Where Are the Meals Prepared?

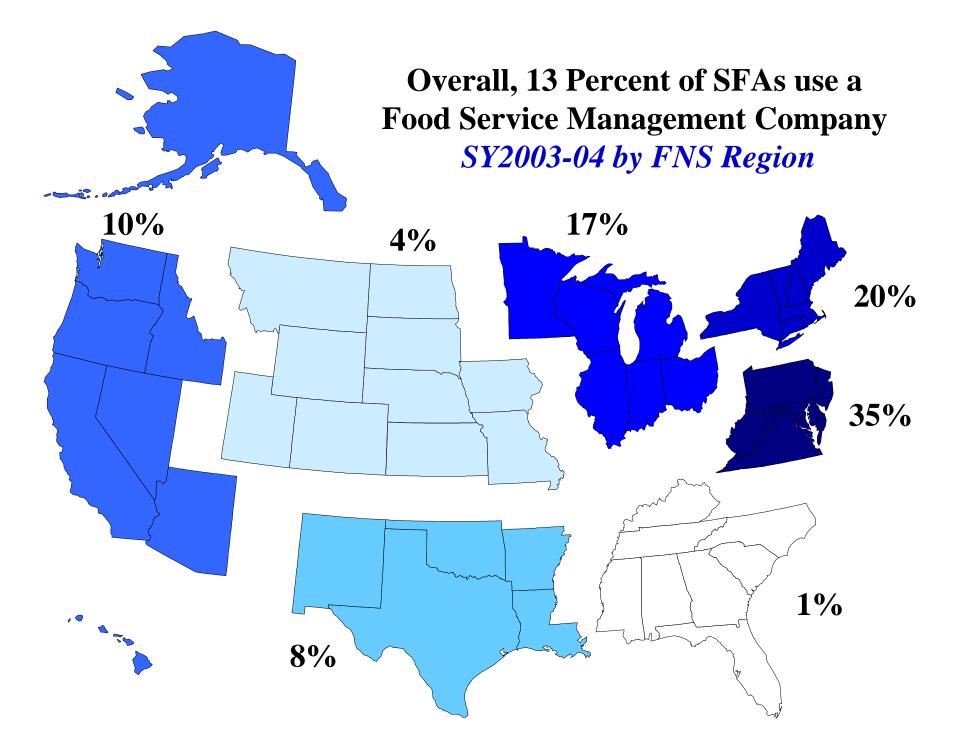
SY 2003-2004



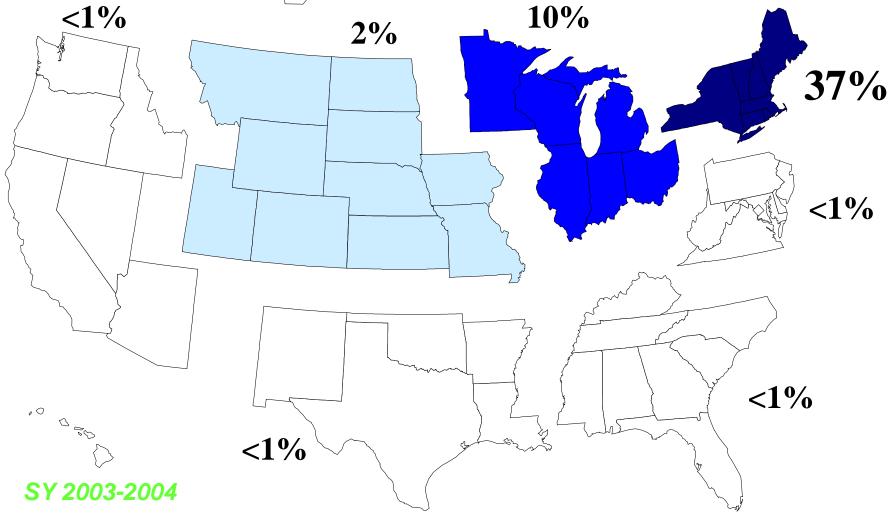


## Are SBP and After-School Snacks Available in All Schools in the SFA?





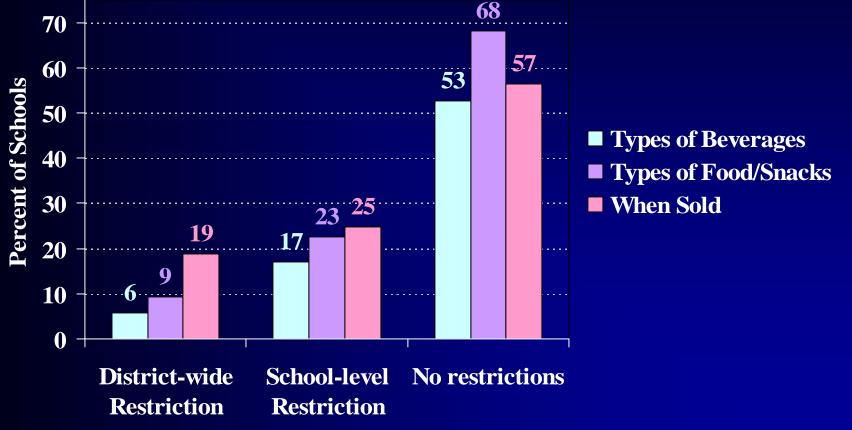




## SNDA-3 Preliminary Findings on Competitive Foods



#### In Spring 2005, Less Than Half of SFAs Reported Restrictions on Competitive Food Beverage Types, Foods, Time When Sold





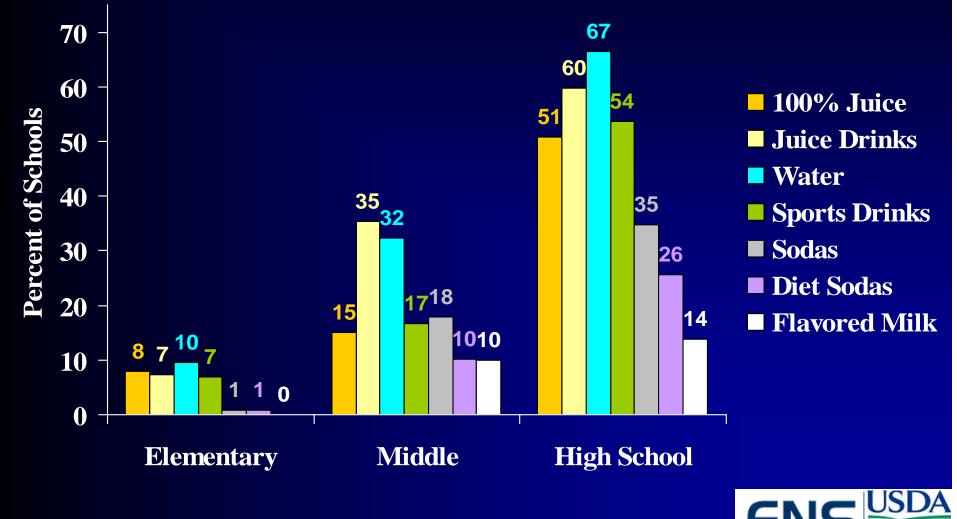
#### Schools in Low Income Areas are Less Likely to Restrict the Time When Sweetened Beverages Can be Sold



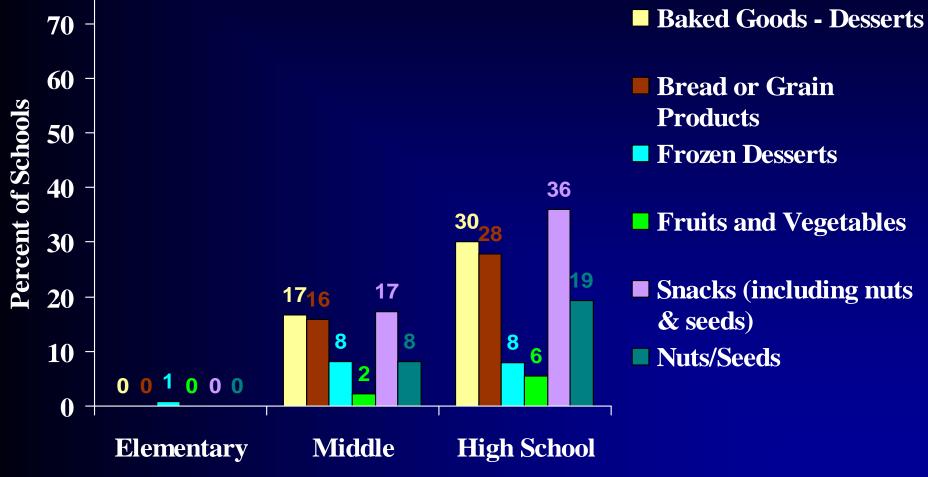




# 34% of Schools have vending machines in or near the cafeteria. What's in these vending machines in or near the cafeteria? 1. Beverages

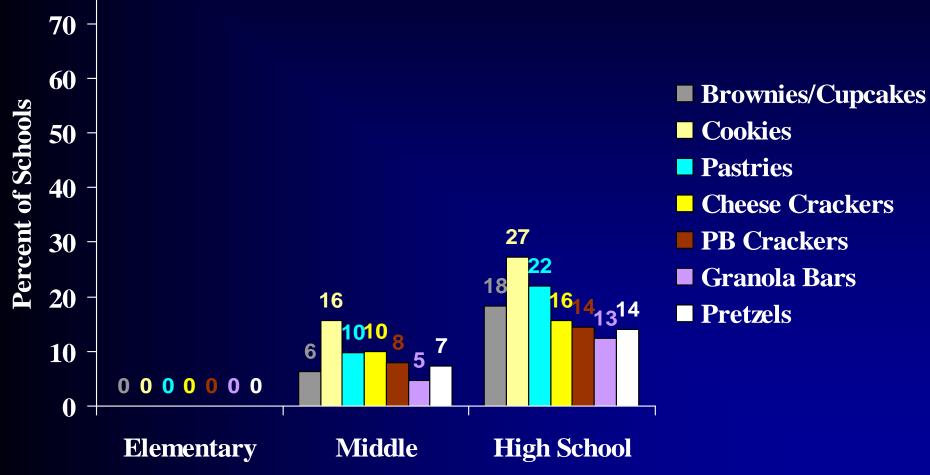


#### What's in the vending machines in or near the cafeteria? 2. Foods other than Beverages

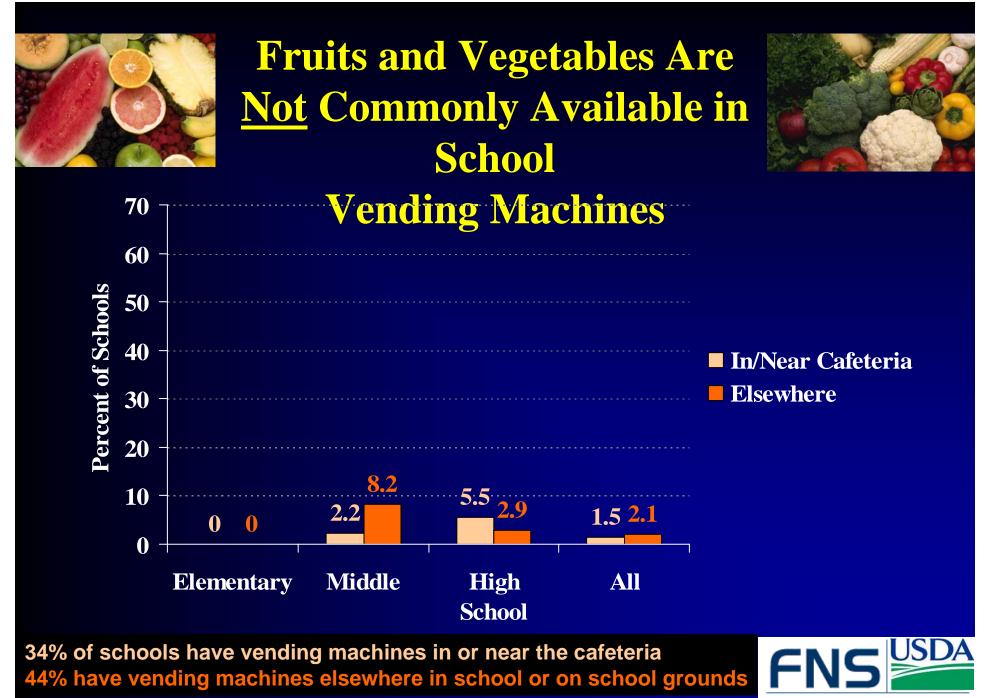




#### What's in the vending machines in or near the cafeteria? Baked Goods (Desserts) and Grains

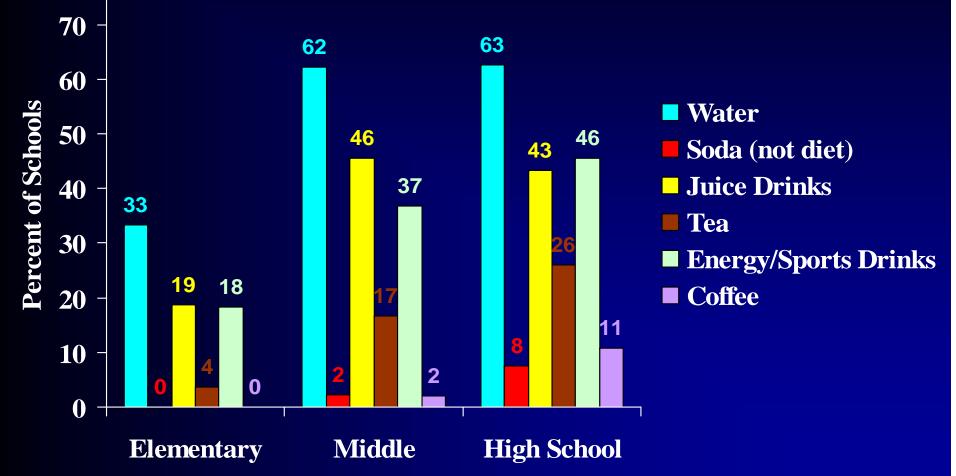






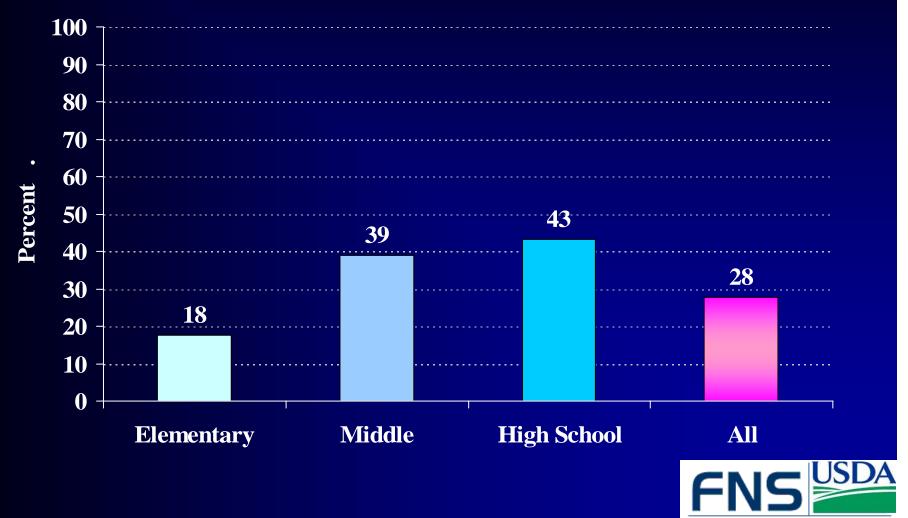
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#### Examples of A La Carte Items Offered at Lunch 1. Beverages





#### What Percent of Schools Sell Fried Potatoes A La Carte?



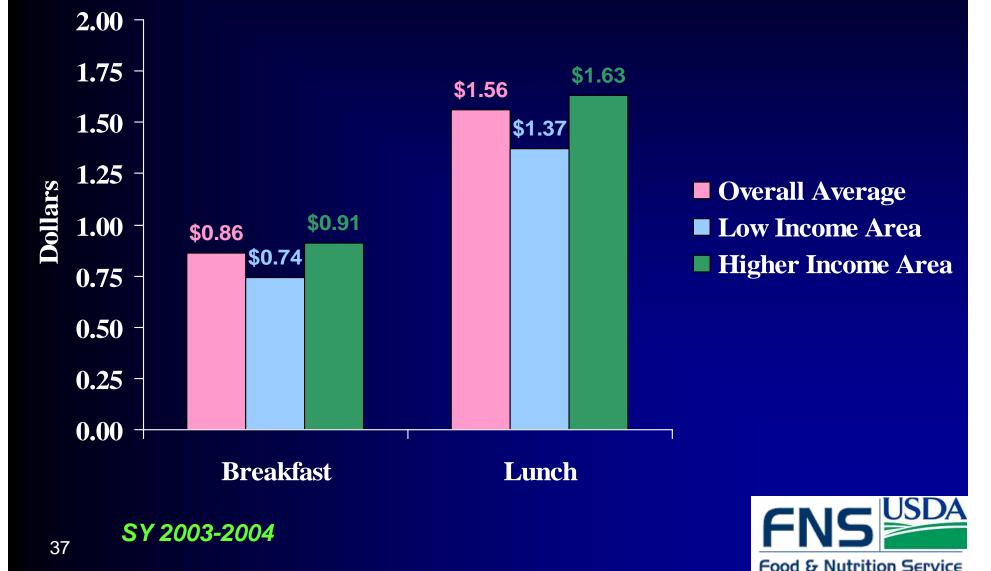
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## Many Pre-Prepared Foods are Being Served in School Meals

- Approximately 1300 unique "school foods" were reported at breakfast and/or lunch
- These foods represented 14 percent of total menu items at lunch and 9 percent at breakfast
- 43 percent of entrees or meat/meat alternates at lunch and 34 percent at breakfast were pre-prepared foods.
- Vendors did not have complete nutrients for these foods or were unwilling to provide them to the contractor



#### What Do SFAs Charge Students for Paid Meals?



#### **Next Steps for SNDA-3**

- Data analyses are underway
- Menu and student dietary intake findings will be available early winter
- We will publish a summary version of the report and a series of short topic reports
- Full reports will be available only on the FNS website.



School Meal Cost Study: A Work in Progress

- Design nationally representative

   120 SFAs
   354 schools

   Data Collection
   Next Steps
- Thank you participants!



# For additional information, please visit the FNS web site:

General: www.fns.usda.gov/fns

Research/Studies: www.fns.usda.gov/OANE

