

LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY



California public library summer meal programs provide children and teens with continued access to free, healthy food and learning opportunities essential to their development while school is out.



308,334

meals served to children and teens by California public libraries



118 California public library meal sites

39 library jurisdictions **23** counties

423

community meal sites offered pop-up library programming

52,493

attendance at pop-up library programs



49 library jurisdictions **31** counties

Lunch at the Library funds helped us to provide our community with hands-on, crucial services promoting much needed literacy and family engagement during these very challenging times.

The library was seen as a steady force in a time of great uncertainty.

Our presence at the meal sites increased attendance for the food distribution. We also raised awareness of library programs.

This year's success story is that these partnerships, some renewed, some new, thrived during a pandemic, a time when resources are essential.



- Participating Public Library Staff

Libraries mobilized to provide families with socially-distanced Lunch at the Library programs amidst the challenges of COVID-19

111,933

take-home STEAM & family engagement activity kits distributed to children, teens, and families

- 63,541 at community meal sites
- 48,392 at library meal sites



91,832

free books distributed

- 63,532 at community meal sites
- 28,300 at library meal sites



For more information on the Lunch at the Library program please visit lunchatthelibrary.org

*Data is as of 12/10/2021. Lunch at the Library participation data was submitted by 75 California public libraries that participated in the Lunch at the Library summer program. There are 185 public library jurisdictions and 58 counties in California.

The Summer Food Service Program is a program of the United States Department of Agriculture, administered in California by the California Department of Education. Lunch at the Library is a project of the California State Library, supported with funds from the State of California. Lunch at the Library was developed by the California Library Association and the California Summer Meal Coalition, with support from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.