



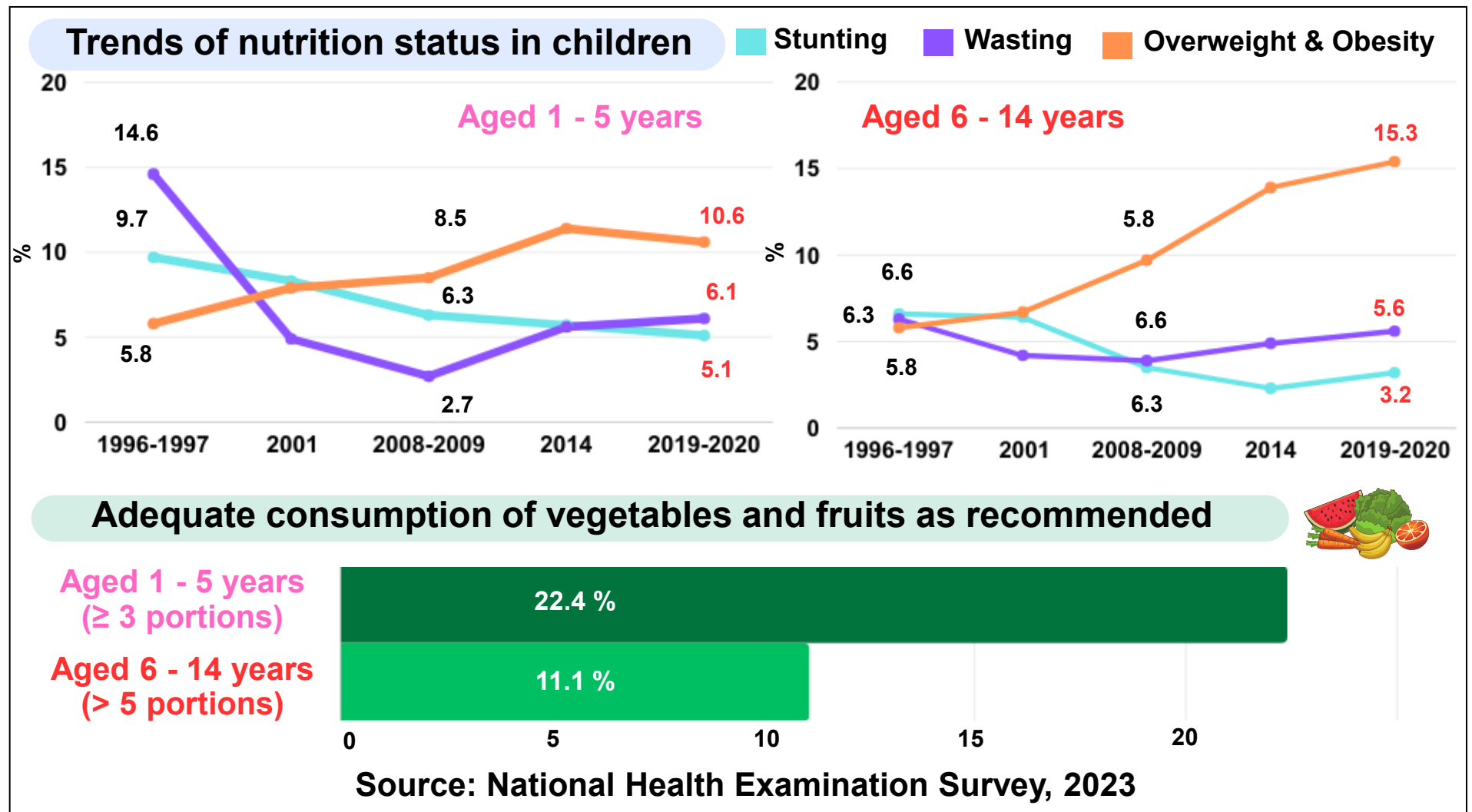
Thai School Feeding Programme



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Background

- **5.1% stunting, 6.1% wasting, and 10.6% overweight and obesity** in children aged 1-5 years (NHES, 2023).
- **3.2% stunting, 5.6% wasting, and 15.3% overweight and obesity** in schoolchildren aged 6-14 years (NHES, 2023).
- **11.1% of children aged 6-14 years consume adequate vegetables and fruits as recommended** (NHES, 2023).
- **National School Lunch and National School Milk programmes** have been implemented in pre-schools and primary schools since 1992.
- **“Thai School Lunch” platform as a tool to promote nutritious menus.**



Programme details

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- Aims**
1. Decrease malnutrition in schoolchildren.
 2. Promote growth and holistic development.
 3. Encourage milk drinking in schoolchildren.

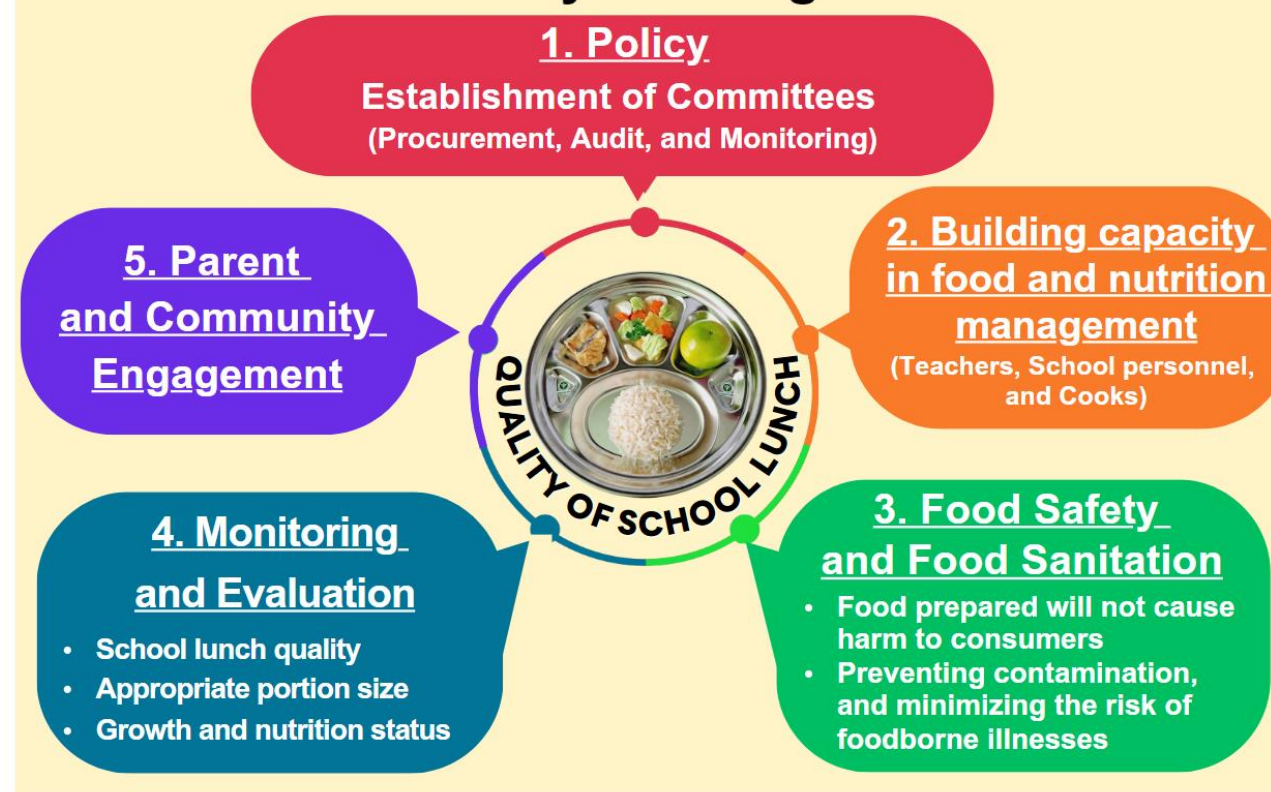
- The Cabinet has adjusted the school lunch rates periodically. Currently, the school lunch rates depend on the number of students.

Received Lunch subsidies 60%		Received Lunch subsidies 100%			
29 Jul. 2008	13 May. 2009	22 Oct. 2013	9 Feb. 2021	8 Nov. 2022	
0.42 USD	0.42 USD	0.65 USD	0.68 USD	0.99 USD (1 - 40 students)	0.74 USD (41 - 100 students)
				0.66 USD (101 - 120 students)	0.61 USD (> 120 students)



- National School Milk programme provides 1 carton of plain milk every day for 260 working days.
- School lunch provision and nutrition assessment have been integrated into “Global Standard for Health Promoting School” programme.
- Promoting the use of “Thai School Lunch Platform” to promote nutritious menus according to the local context.
- Food safety and nutritious meals:
 - Teachers or cooks must undergo the food handler course as mandated by the Public Health Ministerial Regulation of B.E. 2561 (2018).
 - Capacity building of teachers and school personnel to manage nutritious lunches according to School meal standard.
- Monitoring and evaluation
 - School lunch quality with appropriate portion.
 - Growth and nutrition status.

Key learnings



Outcomes/progress

- **Undernutrition (stunting and wasting) has decreased**, while overweight and obesity have increased during 1996-2020.
- **5.9 million students** are receiving free lunch and milk.
- **71%** of child development centers and primary schools have registered to use “Thai School Lunch” platform. However, only **50%** are utilizing the platform for school lunch provision.
- **2000 teachers and public health personnel** have undergone training on the use of Thai School Lunch platform and nutrition assessment.



Gaps

- Frequent changes in teachers or school personnel responsible for school lunch provision.
- Teachers serve inappropriate portion of food for children’s age groups.

Future plans

- Bureau of Nutrition develops:
 - Food and nutrition management in school curriculum.
- Bureau of Nutrition collaborates with
 - OBEC to build capacity for teachers and school personnel regarding appropriate school lunch provision.
 - UNICEF to survey the perception of FBDGs among schoolchildren and teachers.
 - Ministry of Education to integrate nutrition knowledge into the core curriculum for students.

Stakeholders and their roles

	Department of Health	Providing knowledge on nutrition/ Building capacity/ Monitoring and evaluating/ Public relations
	Office of Basic Education Commission (OBEC)	Implementing/ Allocating budget to school/ Monitoring
	Department of Local Administration	Implementing/ Allocating budget to child development centers/ Monitoring
	Institute of Nutrition, Mahidol University	Providing expert consultants in nutrition and collaborating with NECTEC to develop platform
	National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (NECTEC)	Developing and maintaining Thai School Lunch platform
	UN Agencies: UNICEF	Providing technical support