

About the Map

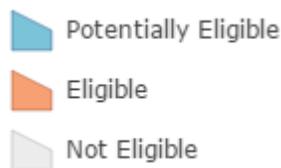
The Averaged Eligibility Map will show you if your summer meal site or day care home is located in a potentially area eligible location based on the USDA Food and Nutrition Service's [averaging policy](#).

According to USDA policy, day care homes (participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program) and summer meal sites (participating in the Summer Food Service Program or the Seamless Summer Option) are considered area eligible if located in a census block group (CBG) that, when combined with one or two adjacent CBGs, has a weighted average of 50% or more children eligible for free or reduced price meals. Each CBG included in the calculation must also have at least 40% of children eligible for free or reduced price meals (FRP). Census tracts may not be combined.

The purpose of this map is to quickly show you if your summer meal site or day care home is located in a CBG that meets the 50% free and reduced price area eligibility criterion when averaged with adjacent block groups. This user's guide will help you to interpret the map and show you how to use the data provided in the map to submit a request to your state agency to get your site formally designated as area eligible.

How to Use this Tool

The map visually displays the results of the weighted averaging calculations by color coding the CBG based on whether a site located there would be potentially area eligible, area eligible or not area eligible:



A CBG is considered “potentially eligible” if it has at least 40% of FRP eligible children living there and, when combined with one or two adjacent CBGs, has a weighted average of 50% or more children eligible for free or reduced price meals. It is labeled “potentially eligible” because you will still need to receive formal approval from your state agency that the site is area eligible according to the averaging policy.

A CBG is considered “eligible” if it is located in a CBG or census tract with 50% or more FRP eligible children living there. This is consistent with the information provided in the USDA Capacity Builder.

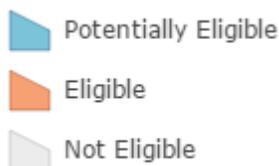
A CBG is considered “not eligible” if it does not have at least 40% of FRP eligible children living there or does not have a weighted average of 50% or more FRP eligible children when combined with adjacent CBGs.

In accordance with FNS policy, the map calculates rates of FRP eligibility using census data for children 18 years and under and for children 12 years and under. All averaging calculations are done separately—the two types of data cannot be combined. The CBGs are color-coded as “eligible” or “potentially eligible” if they meet the required criteria using either the 18 and under data or the 12 and under data.

Determining if Your Site is Potentially Area Eligible

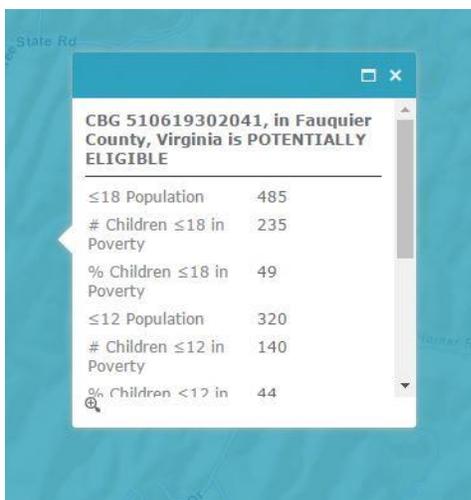
Step 1: Using the tool bar at the top of [the page](#), type your site’s address into the search bar.

Step 2: Look at the color (blue, orange or gray) of the Census Block Group (CBG) that your site is located in on the map. You can refer to this legend to determine area eligibility status:

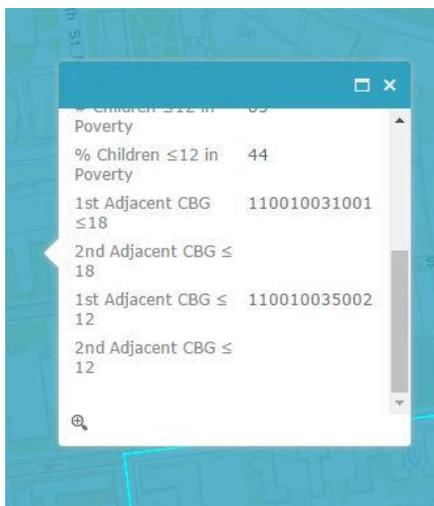


Step 3: Click anywhere on the CBG that your site is located in on the map to pull up the pop-up that shows you the relevant data about children eligible for FRP meals living in this CBG. If your site is located in a “potentially eligible” CBG, you will need to use the information contained in this pop-up to get formal approval from your state agency that the site is area eligible according to the averaging policy.

If your site is located in a “potentially eligible” CBG, your pop-up will look like this:



Top half of the pop-up



*Bottom half of the pop-up
(you will need to scroll down to see this)*

At the top of the pop-up, you will see both the CBG GEOID (identifying number) and the area eligibility status. In the example, the GEOID is 510619302041 and the area eligibility status is “potentially eligible”.

This is the list of the information you will find within a “potentially eligible” CBG popup:

≤18 Population: This is the total number of children 18 and under living in this CBG.

of Children ≤18 in Poverty: This is the total number of children ages 18 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals.

% Children ≤18 in Poverty: This is the percentage of children ages 18 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals. It is calculated by taking # of Children ≤18 in Poverty ÷ ≤18 Population.

≤12 Population: This is the total number of children ages 12 and under living in this CBG.

of Children ≤12 in Poverty: This is the total number of children ages 12 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals.

% Children ≤12 in Poverty: This is the percentage of children ages 12 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals. It is calculated by taking # of Children ≤12 in Poverty ÷ ≤12 Population.

1st Adjacent CBG ≤18: This is the GEOID for the adjacent CBG that was used to make this CBG potentially area eligible when using 18 and under data. In the above example, this number is 110010031001.

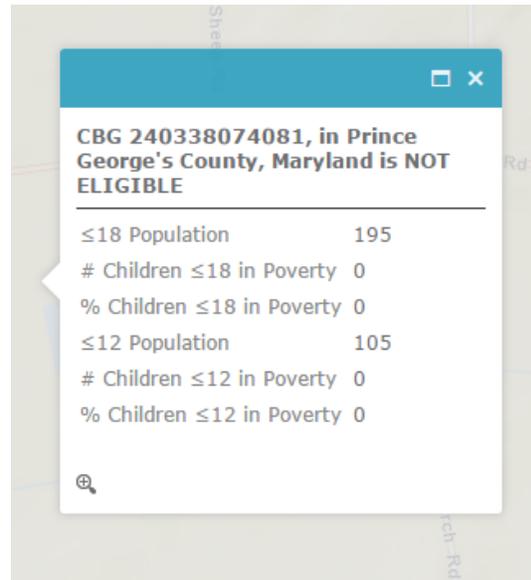
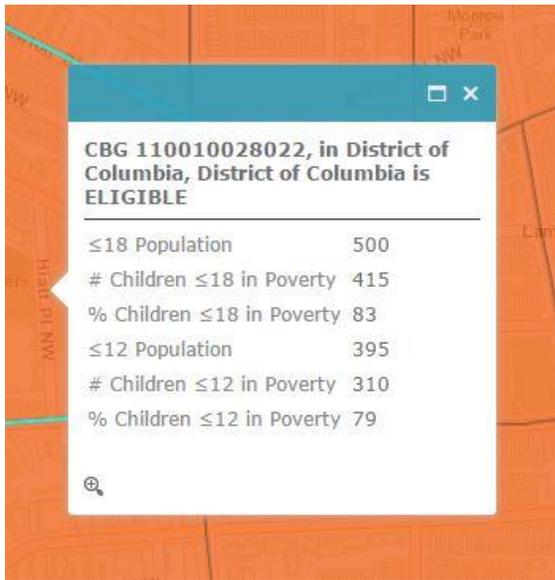
2nd Adjacent CBG ≤18: This is the GEOID for the second adjacent CBG that was used to make this CBG potentially area eligible when using 18 and under data. You will only see a number here if the “potentially eligible” CBG you have clicked on needed to be averaged with two adjacent CBGs (vs. only one adjacent CBG) to reach the 50% FRP eligibility threshold. In the above example, there is no number here.

1st Adjacent CBG ≤12: This is the GEOID for the CBG that was used to make this CBG potentially area eligible when using 12 and under data. In the above example, this number is 110010035002.

2nd Adjacent CBG ≤12: This is the GEOID for the second CBG that was used to make this CBG potentially area eligible when using 12 and under data. You will only see a number here if the “potentially eligible” CBG you have clicked on needed to be averaged with two adjacent CBGs (vs. only one adjacent CBG) to reach the 50% FRP eligibility threshold. In the above example, there is no number here.

Note: All “potentially eligible” CBGs will have at least one number listed under either the “1st Adjacent CBG ≤18” or “1st Adjacent CBG ≤12” row. It is possible to have numbers included in both. A number will only be included in the “2nd Adjacent CBG ≤18” or “2nd Adjacent CBG ≤12” row if a second CBG was required to reach the 50% threshold.

If your site is located in an “eligible” or “not eligible” CBG, your pop-up will look like this:



At the top of the pop-up, you will see both the CBG number and the area eligibility status. In the example on the left, the GEOID is 1100128022 and the status is “eligible.” In the example on the right, the GEOID is 240338074081 and the status is “not eligible.”

This is a list of the information you will find within an “eligible” or “not eligible” CBG popup:

≤18 Population: This is the total number of children 18 and under living in this CBG.

of Children ≤18 in Poverty: This is the total number of children ages 18 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals.

% Children ≤18 in Poverty: This is the percentage of children ages 18 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals. It is calculated by taking # of Children ≤18 in Poverty ÷ ≤18 Population.

≤12 Population: This is the total number of children ages 12 and under living in this CBG.

of Children ≤12 in Poverty: This is the total number of children ages 12 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals.

% Children ≤12 in Poverty: This is the percentage of children ages 12 and under living in this CBG who are eligible for FRP meals. It is calculated by taking # of Children ≤12 in Poverty ÷ ≤12 Population.

Getting Approval from your State Agency

You can use the information contained in the pop-ups within the Averaged Eligibility Map to get formal verification from your state agency that the “potentially eligible” CBG is in fact an area eligible location.

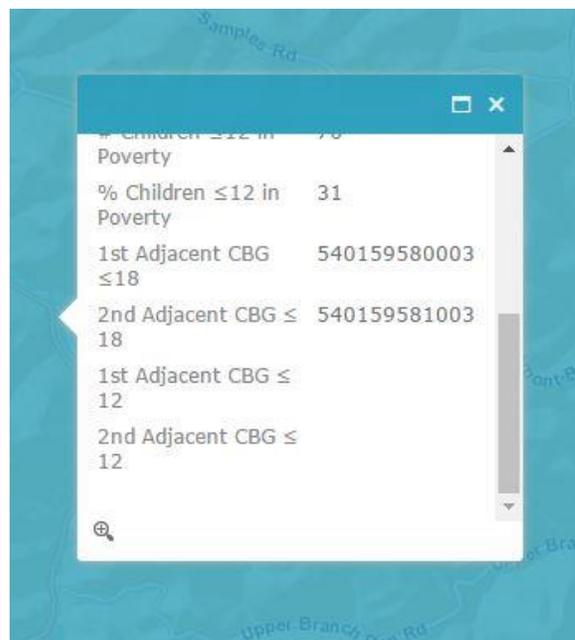
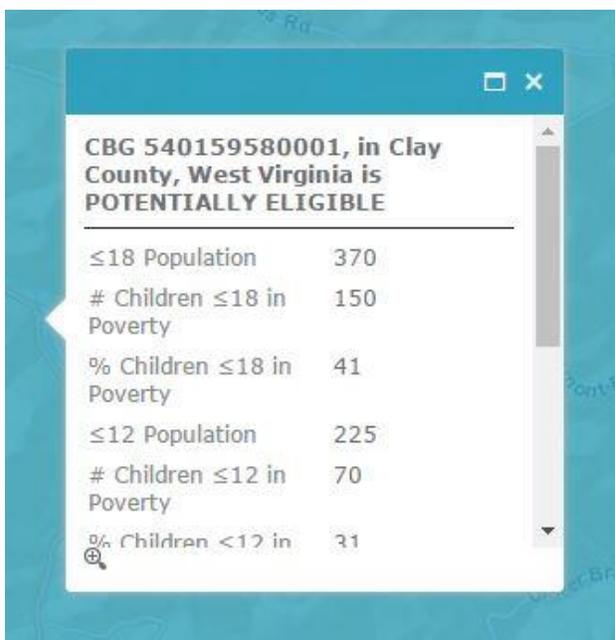
Before following the instructions below, check with your state agency to see if they require you to use a certain table or format to get your site formally designated area eligible. If they do not require a specific format, you can use this table to complete and submit to your state agency, using the information from the Averaged Eligibility Map:

Type of Census Data Used:			
CBG GEOID	Number of Children in Poverty (Numerator)	Total Number of Children (Denominator)	Percentage (must be at least 40%) = Numerator/Denominator
Total	Sum of Numerators	Sum of Denominators	Weighted average percent* = (Sum of Numerators)/(Sum of Denominators) *do not average percentages

Before completing this table, determine if the CBG was deemed “potentially eligible” using either the 18 and under data or the 12 and under data. You will do this by determining if there is a number listed under either “1st Adjacent CBG ≤18” or “1st Adjacent CBG ≤12” in the pop-up. If there is a number listed in both, choose to use either the ≤18 or ≤12 number(s) **but do not use both**.

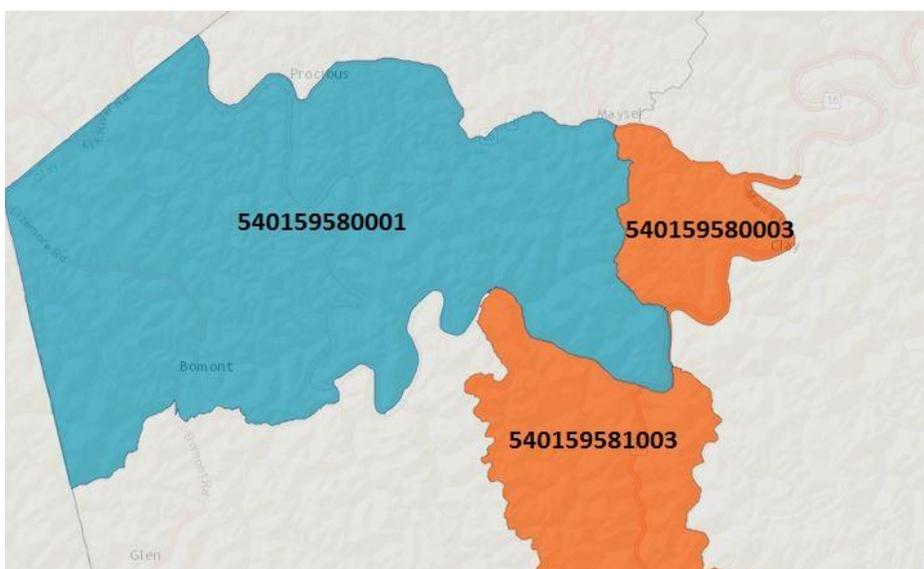
Example

This is how you would complete the first row of the table using this popup as an example (which is made potentially eligible based on **18 and under data**):

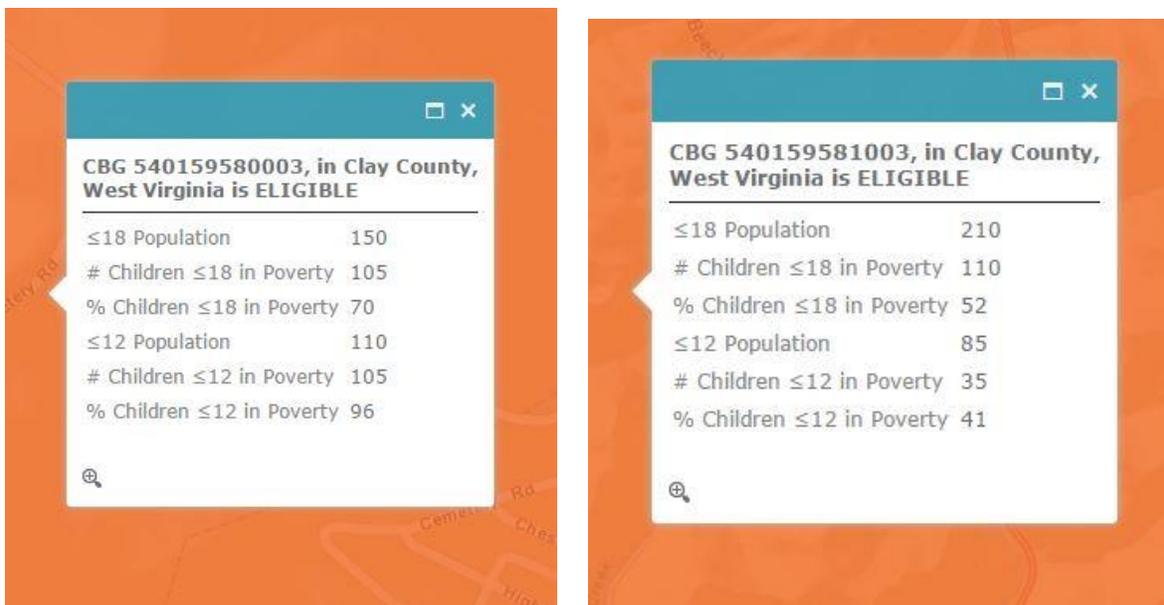


Type of Census Data Used: 18 and under			
CBG GEOID	Number of Children in Poverty (Numerator)	Total Number of Children (Denominator)	Percentage (must be at least 40%) = Numerator/Denominator
54015980001 (potentially eligible)	150 (# of Children ≤18 in Poverty)	370 (≤18 Population)	41% (% Children ≤18 in Poverty)
54015980003 (1 st adjacent CBG ≤18)			
54015981003 (2 nd adjacent CBG ≤18)			
Total	Sum of Numerators	Sum of Denominators	Weighted average percent* = (Sum of Numerators)/(Sum of Denominators) *do not average percentages

To complete the rest of the information for the 1st and 2nd Adjacent CBGs, you will need to find those CBGs on the map and click on each one to bring up their respective popups. Remember, these CBGs will be touching the “potentially eligible” CBG you are already clicked on. You will likely need to zoom out on the map to find them. This is how this example looks on the map (note: GEOID numbers do not appear on the map, they were added for illustration purposes):



Clicking on the two adjacent orange colored CBGs shows you these popups:



Using the information provided for **≤18 only**, you can complete the rest of the first part of the table:

Type of Census Data Used: 18 and under			
CBG GEOID	Number of Children in Poverty (Numerator)	Total Number of Children (Denominator)	Percentage (must be at least 40%) = Numerator/Denominator
54015980001	150	370	41%
54015980003	105 (# of Children ≤18 in Poverty)	150 (≤18 Population)	70% (% Children ≤18 in Poverty)
54015981003	110 (# of Children ≤18 in Poverty)	210 (≤18 Population)	52% (% Children ≤18 in Poverty)
Total	Sum of Numerators	Sum of Denominators	Weighted average percent* = (Sum of Numerators)/(Sum of Denominators) *do not average percentages

To complete the final row of the table, you will do your own math using the numbers from the first part of the table.

Add all three numerators to complete the “Sum of Numerators” cell. Add all three denominators to complete the “Sum of Denominators” cell. Divide “Sum of Numerators” by “Sum of Denominators” to complete the final cell.

Type of Census Data Used: 18 and under			
CBG GEOID	Number of Children in Poverty (Numerator)	Total Number of Children (Denominator)	Percentage (must be at least 40%) = Numerator/Denominator
54015980001	150	370	41%
54015980003	105	150	70%
54015981003	110	210	52%
Total	Sum of Numerators	Sum of Denominators	Weighted average percent* = (Sum of Numerators)/(Sum of Denominators)
	365 (150+105+110)	730 (370+150+210)	50% (365/730) *do not average percentages

Your table is now complete and ready to submit to your state agency:

Type of Census Data Used: 18 and under			
CBG GEOID	Number of Children in Poverty (Numerator)	Denominator	Percentage (must be at least 40%) = Numerator/Denominator
54015980001	150	370	41%
54015980003	105	150	70%
54015981003	110	210	52%
Total	Sum of Numerators	Sum of Denominators	Weighted average percent* = (Sum of Numerators)/(Sum of Denominators)
	365	730	50% *do not average percentages

Questions? Comments?

If you have any other questions about how to use the map or feedback on how to make this map better, please contact us at: bestpractices@strength.org

Table for State Agency Approval

(Check with your state agency before completing to determine if they require you to use a state-specific table)

Use this table to complete and submit to your state agency. The table will automatically do all of the required calculations, so you will only need to input the GEOIDs, Number of Children in Poverty, and Total Number of Children values.

Type of Census Data Used:			
CBG GEOID	Number of Children in Poverty (Numerator)	Total Number of Children (Denominator)	Percentage (must be at least 40%) = Numerator/Denominator
			#DIV/0!
			#DIV/0!
			#DIV/0!
Total	Sum of Numerators	Sum of Denominators	Weighted average percent* = (Sum of Numerators)/(Sum of Denominators) *do not average percentages
	0	0	#DIV/0!