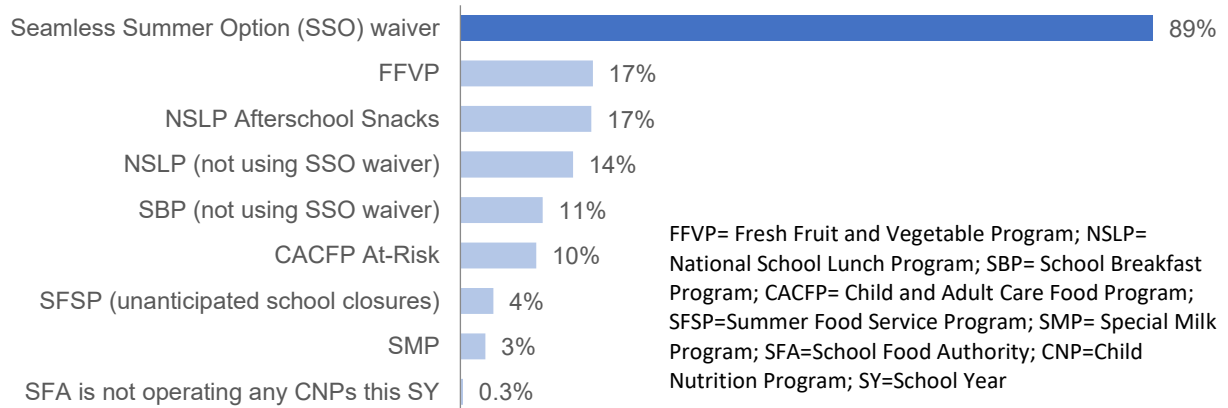


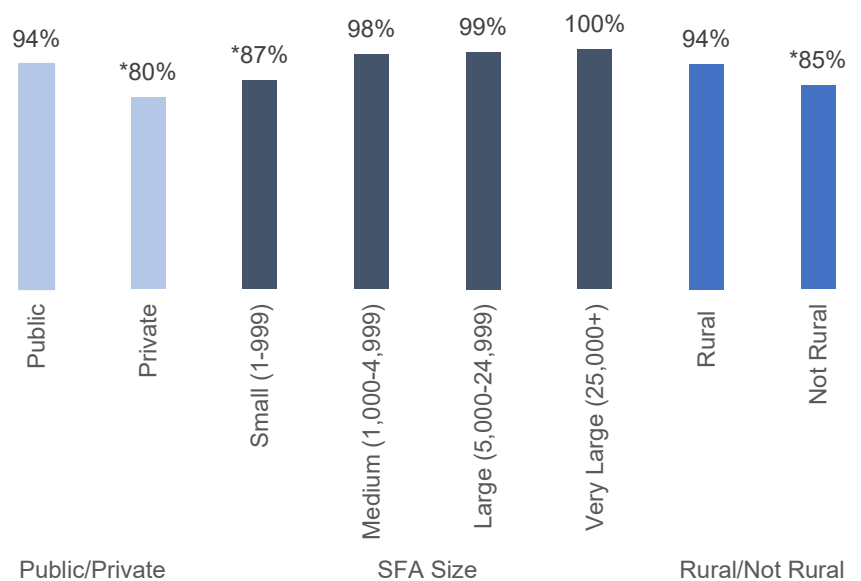
Waiver Use

Almost 90 percent of all SFAs reported using the SY 2021-2022 Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Waiver. About 91 percent of public SFAs used the SSO waiver compared to 77 percent of private SFAs. Small SFAs were less likely to use the SSO waiver (84 percent) than medium (95 percent), large (97 percent), and very large (99 percent) SFAs.² SFAs located in rural areas were more likely to use the SSO waiver than those located in non-rural areas (91 percent compared to 85 percent). SFAs in the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions used the SSO waiver the most (92 percent and 91 percent) compared to SFAs across the other FNS regions. SFAs in the Southeast and Mountain Plains regions were least likely to use the SSO waiver (83 percent and 84 percent).



Overall Challenges

Approximately 92 percent of all SFAs reported challenges with procuring or receiving food, beverages or supplies in SY 2021-2022. Nine in 10 SFAs (90 percent) reported challenges with foods or beverages and 80 percent reported challenges procuring or receiving non-food supplies or equipment. Private SFAs, small SFAs, and those in non-rural areas were less likely to report challenges compared to their public, larger, and rural counterparts.³ The percent of SFAs reporting challenges varied slightly across FNS regions (90 percent to 94 percent) (not shown).



² See appendix for SFA size definitions.

³ *Indicates statistical significance.

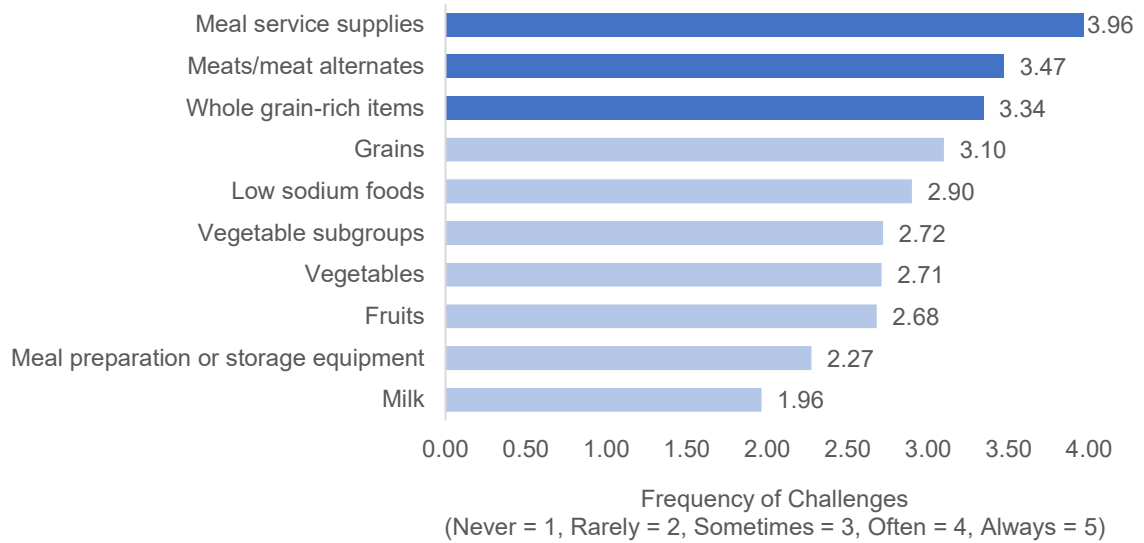
Percent of SFAs Experiencing Challenges by State

The percent of SFAs reporting supply chain challenges was high across all States,⁴ with Rhode Island and New Mexico reporting the lowest percent of SFAs with challenges (70 percent), and Nevada and West Virginia reporting all SFAs are experiencing challenges.

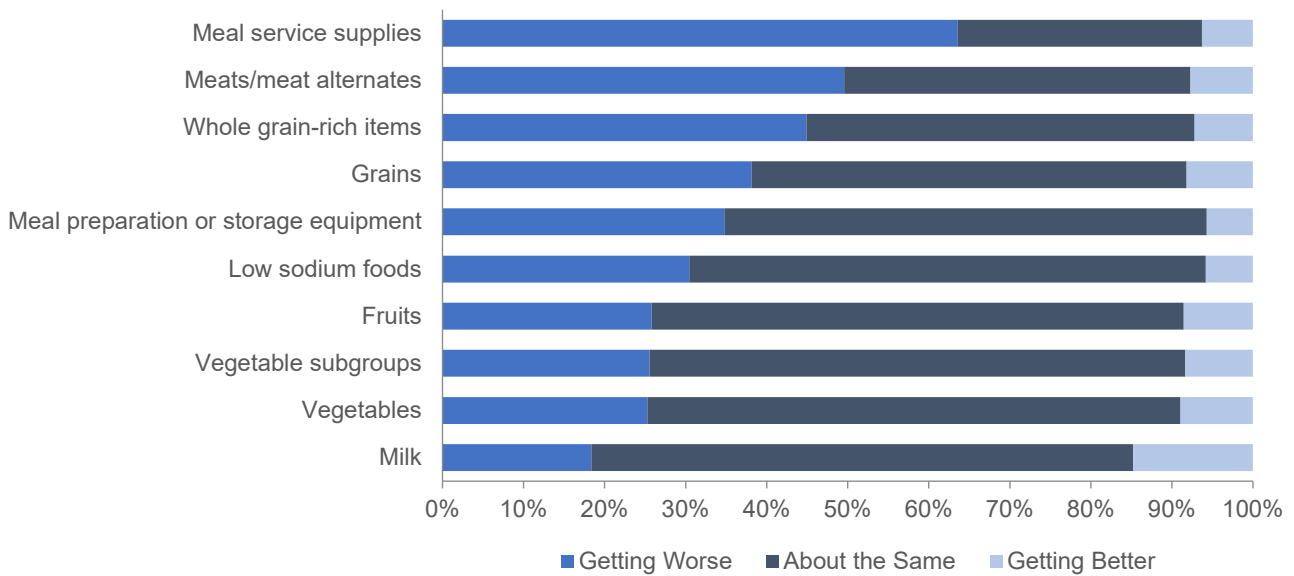
⁴ State level figures are not weighted.

Specific Product Challenges and Influencing Factors

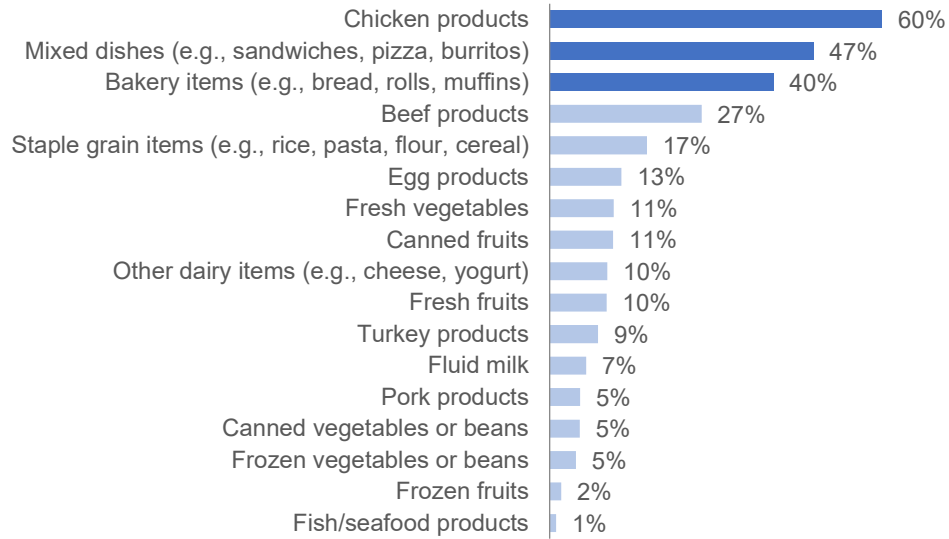
SFAs reported experiencing challenges most frequently with meal service supplies, meat/meat alternates, and whole grain-rich products.



At the time of the survey, most SFAs reported that challenges with these items were about the same or getting worse compared to the beginning of SY 2021-2022.



SFAs reported that chicken products, mixed dishes, and bakery items were the most challenging food items to procure.



SFAs cited limited product availability, orders arriving with missing or substituted items, and labor shortages in the supply chain as the most common reasons for their challenges.

