

# Developing Dietary Guidelines for Americans

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# **Dietary Guidelines for Americans**

- The 1990 National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act requires that the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services and of Agriculture publish a new edition of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans every 5 years
- The guidelines should reflect current advancements in scientific knowledge on the relationship between nutrition and human health
- The guidelines further translates the science current at the time into sound food-based guidance to promote health in the United States
- The process has evolved from concerns of nutrient deficiencies and malnutrition in the beginning to disease prevention and over nutrition more recently



# Purpose of The Dietary Guidelines for Americans

Provides evidence-based food and beverage recommendations for

Americans ages 2 and older

These recommendations aim to:

- Promote health
- Prevent chronic disease
- Help people reach and maintain a healthy weight
  - Forms the basis of federal nutrition policy and programs
  - Helps guide local, state, and national health promotion and disease prevention initiatives
  - Informs various organizations and industries, such as food product development



# Dietary Guidelines: What It Is, What It Is Not

- Translates science into food-based guidance toward a healthy and enjoyable diet
- Helps individuals improve and maintain overall health, focusing on disease prevention and reducing the risk of chronic diseases
- These Guidelines embody the idea that a healthy eating pattern is an adaptable framework in which individuals can enjoy foods:
  - that meet their personal,
  - cultural, and traditional preferences
  - and fit within their budget
- Is not intended to be used to treat disease

# History of The Dietary Guidelines for Americans



**Concern: Nutrient Deficiencies** 



## From Nutrient based to Food based

#### Nutrient based goals

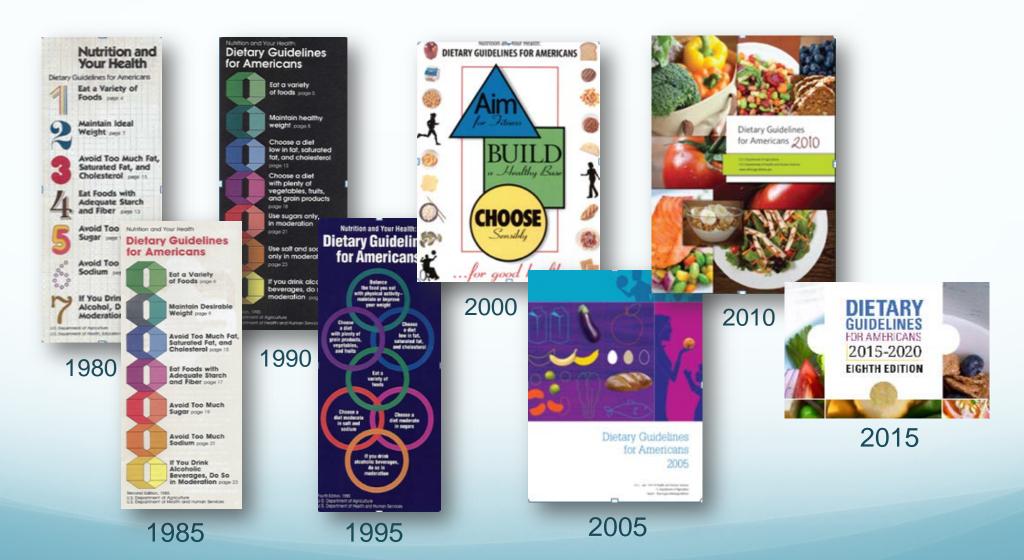
- Increase consumption of complex carbohydrates and "naturally occurring sugars"
- Reduce consumption of refined and processed sugars, saturated fat, cholesterol, and sodium

#### Food based

- Increase fruits, vegetables, and whole grains
- Decrease
  - refined and processed sugars and foods high in such sugars;
  - foods high in total fat and animal fat, and partially replace saturated fats with polyunsaturated fats
  - eggs, butter fat and other high cholesterol foods
  - salt and foods high in salt
- Choose low-fat and non-fat dairy products instead of high-fat dairy products (except young children)



# **Dietary Guidelines for Americans**





# Translating Science for Development of *Dietary Guidelines*

Three Stage Process





# **Approaches**

# First edition to use a systematic review process

- Original systematic review
- Systematic review, meta analysis and reports
- Data analysis
- Food pattern and modeling analyses



Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2005

## Review of Current Scientific Evidence

- The Secretaries of HHS and of USDA appoint an external Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee to ensure sound external scientific advice to inform policy decisions
- The Advisory Committee members are prestigious researchers in the fields of nutrition, health, and medicine.
- The committee is thoroughly vetted for conflicts of interest before they are appointed to their positions and are required to submit a financial disclosure form annually
- The committee reviews the previous edition of the Dietary Guidelines to determine the topics for which new scientific evidence was needed to inform the development of the new edition
- The public is invited to submit written/oral comments to the Advisory Committee throughout the entirety of its work



# **Committee member requirements**

- Current knowledge in human nutrition and chronic disease
- Familiarity with the purpose, communication and application of dietary guidelines
- Expertise was sought in several specialty areas:
  - Chronic disease e.g., cancer, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, overweight and obesity, and osteoporosis);
  - Energy balance;
  - Epidemiology;
  - Food processing science, safety, and technology;
  - General medicine;
  - Gerontology;
  - Nutrient bioavailability; nutrition biochemistry and physiology;
  - Nutrition education and behavior change;
  - Pediatrics; maternal/gestational nutrition;
  - Public health;
  - And/or nutrition-related systematic review methodology





## **Development of** *Dietary Guidelines*

- 1. Develop research questions
- 2. Create and implement literature search and sort plans
- 3. Develop evidence portfolios
- 4. Synthesize the bodies of evidence
- 5. Develop conclusion statements and grade the evidence
- 6. Describe research recommendations



- Original systematic reviews: The USDA Nutrition Evidence Library uses a systematic review methodology designed to analyze food, nutrition, and public health science
  - The medical field has used systematic reviews as the standard practice for more than 25 years to inform the development of national guidelines for health professionals
- Review of existing systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and reports by Federal agencies or leading scientific organizations
  - The approach involved applying a systematic process to assess the quality of the existing review or report and to ensure that it presented a comprehensive review of the Advisory Committee's question of interest.



- Data analyses: The Advisory Committee used national data from Federal
  agencies to answer questions about chronic disease prevalence rates; food and
  nutrient intakes of the U.S. population across age, sex, and other demographic
  characteristics; and nutrient content of foods.
  - Data analyses tailored to a specific question helped inform the Advisory Committee's recommendations

#### Food pattern modeling analyses:

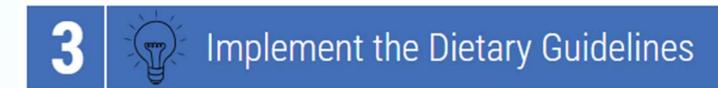
- Estimates of diet quality in the USDA recommended Food Patterns
- The Food Patterns were developed to demonstrate how Dietary Guidelines recommendations can be met within an overall eating pattern.
- Specific needs such as selecting foods to increase vitamin D intake were assessed
- The results of the modeling analyses kept recommendations grounded within the structure of an overall healthy eating pattern



# Shifts Needed to Align with Healthy Eating Patterns

Shift to healthier food and beverage choices while considering cultural and personal preferences





# Overarching themes and Recommendations

#### • The Problem:

- ½ of all Americans have one or more preventable chronic diseases that are related to poor quality dietary patterns and physical in activity
- 2/3 adults and nearly ½ of children and youth are overweight obese

#### • The Gap:

- Dietary patterns are suboptimal and causally related to poor individual and population health and higher chronic disease rates
- Few improvements in consumers' food choices have been seen in recent decades
- Diets are low in vegetables, fruits, and whole grain and high in sodium, calories, saturated fat, refined grains, and added sugars
- Under consumption of Vit. D, calcium, potassium, and fiber and iron in adolescents and females



#### Implement the Dietary Guidelines











#### Results

- Adolescents boys and girls have the lowest intake of vegetables
- Fruit intake low for almost all age and sex groups (with the exception of children aged 1-8 years)
- The average consumption of refined grains was above the recommendations, while the average consumption of whole grains intakes was below the recommendation
- Substantially below recommendations, except for your children, 1-3 years of age
- Seafood consumption was low compared to recommendations

# Recommendations in the Dietary Guidelines 2015-2020

Include a variety of vegetables from all of the subgroups – dark green, red and orange, legumes (beans and peas), starchy, and others
Eat fruits, especially whole fruits

Eat grains, at least half of which are whole grains

Fat-free or low-fat dairy, including milk, yogurt, cheese, or fortified soy beverages

Consume a variety of protein foods, including seafood, lean meats and poultry, eggs, legumes (beans and peas), and nuts, seeds, and soy products



#### Implement the Dietary Guidelines







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- The major source of added sugars (47%) in typical U.S. diet is beverages, which include soft drinks, fruit drinks, sweetened coffee and tea, energy drinks, alcoholic beverages, and flavored water.
- Only 29% of the individuals in the U.S. consume amount of saturated fats consistent with the limit of less than 10 percent of calories
- Main source: mixed dishes (pizza, burgers, sandwiches, soups, among others)
- Average intake of sodium in adult men is 4,240 mg per day, and for women the average is 2,980 mg
- Most sodium consumed in U.S. comes from salts added during commercial food processing and preparation

# Recommendations in the Dietary Guidelines 2015-2020

Reduce added sugars consumption to less than 10% of calories per day

Choose beverages with no added sugars, such as water
Reduce portions of sugarsweetened beverages

Reduce saturated fats intake to less than 10% of calories per day

Change the ingredients of the mixed dishes to increase the amount of vegetables, whole grains, lean meat, low-fat or fat-free cheese

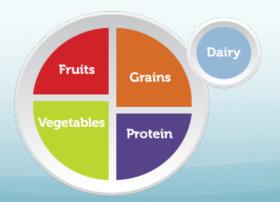
Shift to food choices to reduce sodium intake

Eating at home more often Limit sauces, mixes, and "instant" products, including flavored rice, instant noodles, and ready-made pasta



# **Five Overarching Guidelines**

- 1. Follow a healthy eating pattern across the lifespan
- 2. Focus on variety, nutrient density, and amount
- 3. Limit calories from added sugars, saturated fats, and reduce sodium intake
- 4. Shift to healthier food and beverage choices while considering cultural and personal preferences
- 5. Support healthy eating patterns for all



# **Healthy Physical Activity Patterns**

#### Adults

- Aim for 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity per week, and
- At least 2 days of muscle-strengthening exercises per week



At least 60 minutes of physical activity per day including aerobic, muscle-strengthening, and bone-strengthening activities









# Implement the Dietary Guidelines

### Translating Science for Development of *Dietary Guidelines*

- Foster partnerships with food producers, suppliers, and retailers to increase access to foods that align with the **Dietary Guidelines**
- Promote the development and availability of food products that align with the Dietary Guidelines in food retail and food service establishments
- Identify and support policies and/or programs that promote healthy eating and physical activity patterns
- Encourage participation in physical activity programs offered in various settings



Outreach to consumers about making healthy changes



HOME

SCHOOL

**WORKSITE** 

COMMUNITY

FOOD RETAIL



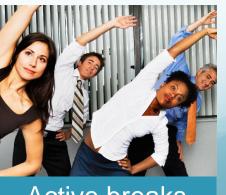
Community gardens



Meal Planning



Active play



Active breaks

## **Food Access**

- Having access to healthy, safe, and affordable food choices
- Influenced by:
  - Proximity to food retail outlets
  - Individual resources
  - Neighborhood level resources
  - Race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, geographic location, disabilities



## **Acculturation**

- The process by which individuals adopt the attitudes, values, customs, beliefs, of a new culture
- A gradual exchange between the original attitudes and behaviors associated with the originating country and those of the host culture





#### Figure D5.1: Elements needed for sustainable diets

#### **Values**

- Establish a culture of healthy living
- Embrace equitable solutions
- Encourage active citizenship to steward natural resources
- Transparency in the work
- Support universal food security

#### **Supply-Chain Participants**

- · Conserve natural resources
- · Use capital and labor responsibly
- Innovate in research and technology
- Enhance biodiversity

#### Sustainable Diets

#### Consumers

- Link sustainability and healthy diets
- Achieve healthy dietary patterns
- · Increase demand for sustainable food
- Minimize waste

#### **Policies**

- Informed by best evidence
- Engage multiple sector stakeholders
- Implement at local, regional, national, and global levels
- Develop systems for monitoring and accountability
- Align policies to promote both health and sustainability

# THANK YOU.

Any Questions?