

Webinar | April 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm EST

# FRUITS & VEGETABLES: Food Rooted in Better Mental Health



**Presented by Dr. Taylor Wallace**  
*Chief Food Scientist*  
Produce for Better Health Foundation



**PBH**<sup>®</sup>

**PRODUCE FOR  
BETTER HEALTH  
FOUNDATION**

**WENDY  
REINHARDT KAPSAK, MS, RDN**

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**PRESIDENT & CEO  
PRODUCE FOR BETTER HEALTH FOUNDATION**

**MODERATOR**



# ABOUT PBH



# OUR PURPOSE

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The Produce for Better Health Foundation (PBH), a 501(c)3, is the only national non-profit organization 100% dedicated to helping people live happier, healthier lives by eating and enjoying more fruits and vegetables, in every form, each and every day.

PBH, along with its strategic partners, will elevate new fruit and vegetable consumption behaviors as a national priority – *accelerating growth and serving the public good.*



# THE AWARD-WINNING HAVE A PLANT® MOVEMENT REACHES MILLIONS

The award-winning Have A Plant® Movement is a way to inspire lasting behavior change by tapping into the emotional connection consumers have to the fruit and vegetable eating experience.

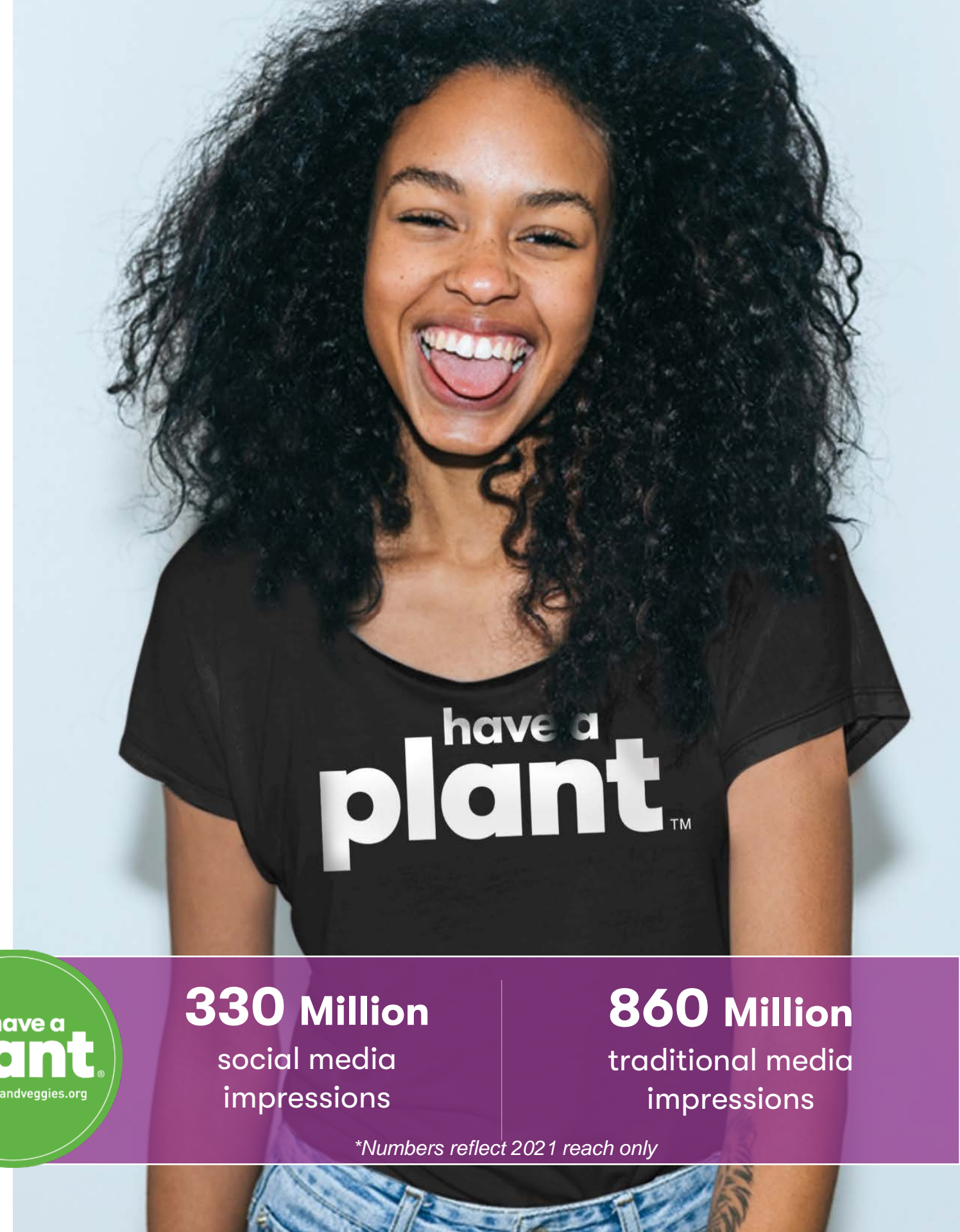
PBH is an undeniable resource for health & wellness professionals, given its trusted third-party credibility, breadth of nutrition and behavioral research, and strong consumer, influencer and industry reach.



**330 Million**  
social media  
impressions

**860 Million**  
traditional media  
impressions

*\*Numbers reflect 2021 reach only*



# Housekeeping



**1 CPEU available through the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR)**

**You will receive a link to the certificate of attendance, the webinar recording and PDF of the presentation within 48-72 hours.**

**Type your questions and/or comments into the Q&A section located at the bottom of your screen at any time during the webinar.**

# Fruits and Veggies: Food Rooted in Better Mental Health

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**Taylor C. Wallace, PhD**

Think Healthy Group

George Mason University

Produce for Better Health Foundation

Center for Magnesium Research & Education



# Agenda

## Today we will cover:

1. The Fruit and Vegetable Gap and PBH “State of the Plate”
2. Mental Health
3. Nutrients Impacting the Brain
4. The MIND Diet
5. The Bottom Line





# Disclosures

**Its always important to be transparent and declare perceived conflicts of interest:**

**Employment:**

Think Healthy Group  
George Mason University

**Journal Editorships (paid):**

Journal of Dietary Supplements  
Journal of the American College of Nutrition  
Annals of Medicine

**Fellowships & Appointments:**

Produce for Better Health Foundation  
Center for Magnesium Education & Research  
AND Flavan-3-ol Working Group  
ORISE Established Scientist Appointment

**Research Funding (past 3-years):**

National Institutes of Health  
Sabra Dipping Company  
Produce for Better Health Foundation  
Unilever  
U.S. Department of Agriculture




**Speaker Honoraria:**

Produce for Better Health Foundation

*\*These conflicts of interest are those that could be perceived as relating to this presentation. All disclosures can be found at: [www.drtylorwallace.com](http://www.drtylorwallace.com).*

# The Fruit and Vegetable Gap

## Authoritative Review:

-  Scientific evidence for providing public health recommendations to increase fruit and vegetable consumption for **prevention of disease is strong.**
-  Fruits and vegetables have the strongest effects in relation to CVD, noting a **threshold effect at about 800 g (i.e., 5-servings) per day.**
-  Certain types of fruits and vegetables, particularly **cruciferous vegetables, dark-green leafy vegetables, citrus fruits, and dark colored berries** have superior effects in relation to **disease prevention.**



CRITICAL REVIEWS IN FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10408398.2019.1632258>

Taylor & Francis  
Taylor & Francis Group

Check for updates

REVIEW

**Fruits, vegetables, and health: A comprehensive narrative, umbrella review of the science and recommendations for enhanced public policy to improve intake**

Taylor C. Wallace<sup>a,b</sup> , Regan L. Bailey<sup>c</sup>, Jeffrey B. Blumberg<sup>d</sup>, Britt Burton-Freeman<sup>f</sup>, C-y. Oliver Chen<sup>d,e</sup>, Kristi M. Crowe-White<sup>g</sup> , Adam Drewnowski<sup>h</sup>, Shirin Hooshmand<sup>i</sup>, Elizabeth Johnson<sup>d</sup>, Richard Lewis<sup>j</sup>, Robert Murray<sup>k</sup>, Sue A. Shapses<sup>l</sup>, and Ding Ding Wang<sup>m</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Nutrition and Food Studies, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA; <sup>b</sup>Think Healthy Group, Inc., Washington, DC, USA; <sup>c</sup>Department of Nutrition Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA; <sup>d</sup>Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA; <sup>e</sup>Biofortis Research, Merieux NutriSciences, Addison, Illinois, USA; <sup>f</sup>Center for Nutrition Research, Institute for Food Safety and Health, Illinois Institute of Technology, Bedford Park, Illinois, USA; <sup>g</sup>Department of Human Nutrition, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, USA; <sup>h</sup>Department of Epidemiology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA; <sup>i</sup>School of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences, San Diego State University, San Diego, California, USA; <sup>j</sup>Bone and Body Composition Laboratory, College of Family and Consumer Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, USA; <sup>k</sup>College of Education and Human Ecology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA; <sup>l</sup>Department of Nutritional Sciences, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA; <sup>m</sup>D&V Systematic Evidence Review, Bronx, New York, USA

**ABSTRACT**  
Fruit and vegetables (F&V) have been a cornerstone of healthy dietary recommendations; the 2015–2020 U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend that F&V constitute one-half of the plate at each meal. F&V include a diverse collection of plant foods that vary in their energy, nutrient, and dietary bioactive contents. F&V have potential health-promoting effects beyond providing basic nutrition needs in humans, including their role in reducing inflammation and their potential preventive effects on various chronic disease states leading to decreases in years lost due to premature mortality and years lived with disability/morbidity. Current global intakes of F&V are well below recommendations. Given the importance of F&V for health, public policies that promote dietary interventions to help increase F&V intake are warranted. This externally commissioned

**KEYWORDS**  
Fruit; vegetable; produce; health; nutrition

Crit Rev Food Sci Nutr. 2020;60(13):2174.

# The Fruit and Vegetable Gap

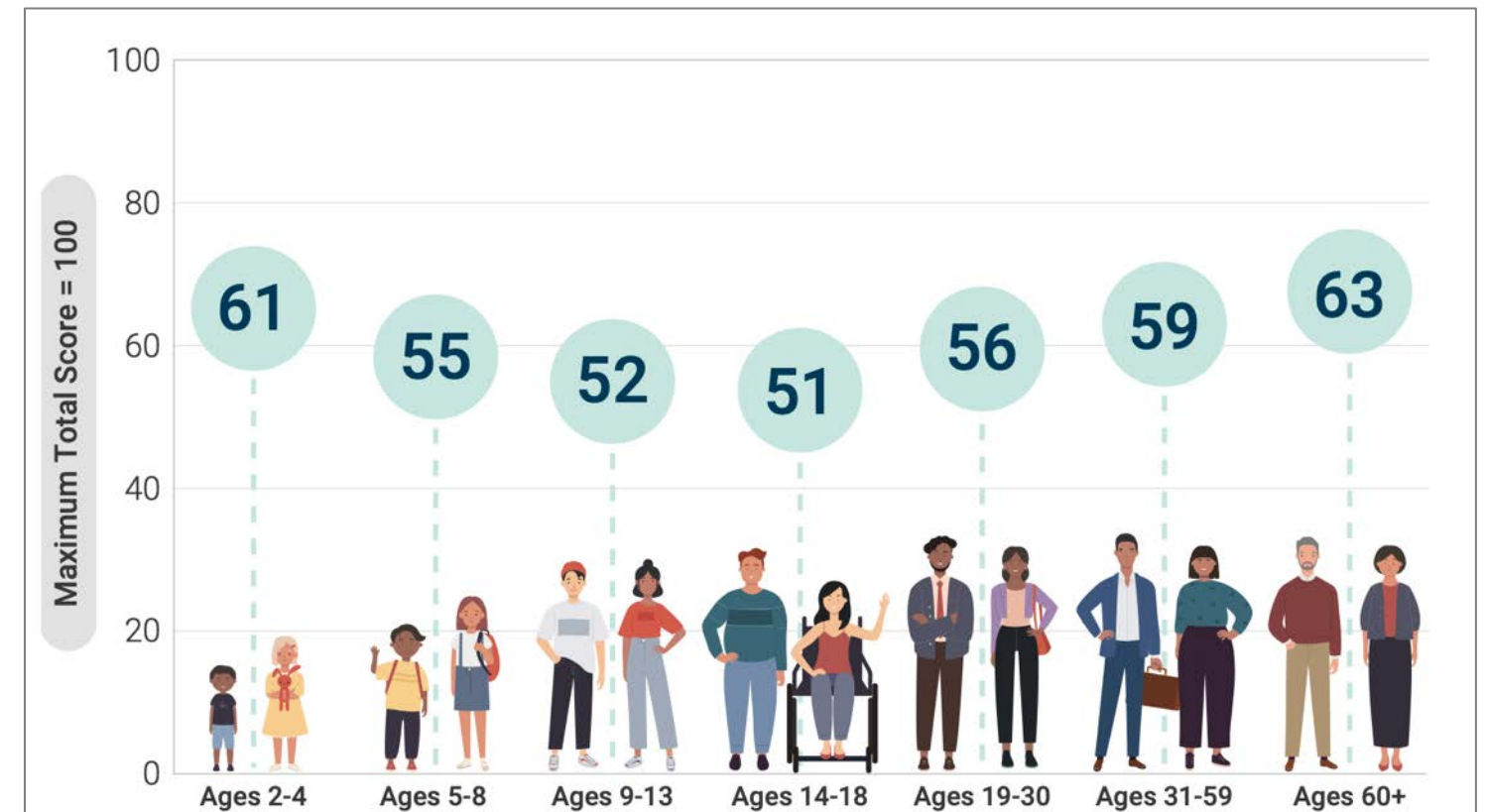
Figure I-1

## Adherence of the U.S. Population to the *Dietary Guidelines* Over Time, as Measured by the Average Total Healthy Eating Index-2015 Scores



**NOTE:** HEI-2015 total scores are out of 100 possible points. A score of 100 indicates that recommendations on average were met or exceeded. A higher total score indicates a higher quality diet.

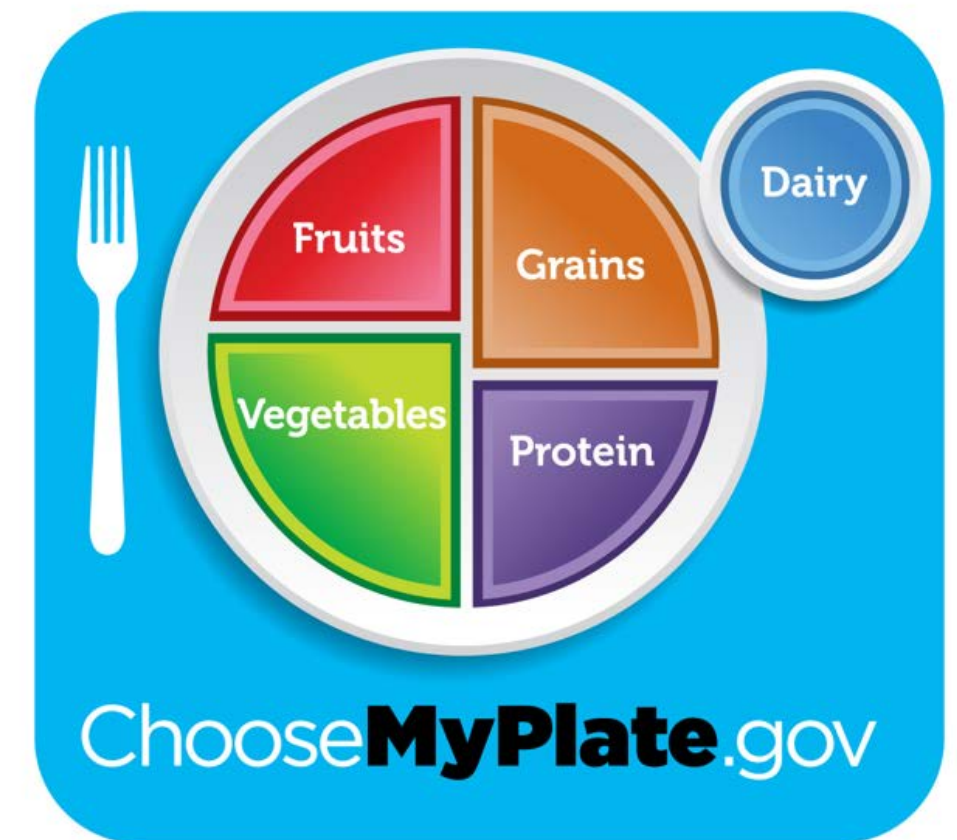
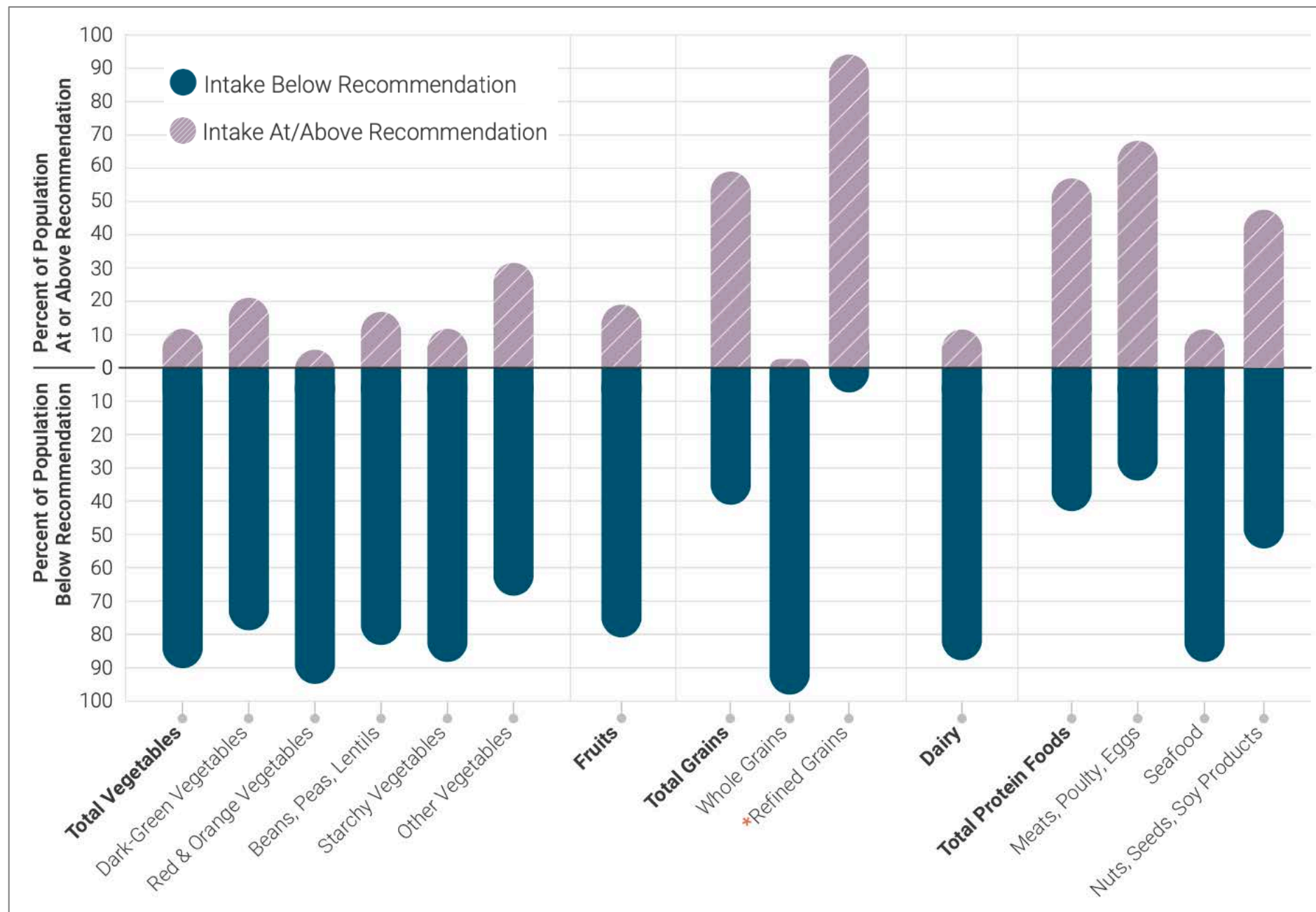
**Data Source:** Analysis of What We Eat in America, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) data from 2005-2006 through 2015-2016, ages 2 and older, day 1 dietary intake data, weighted.



**NOTE:** HEI-2015 total scores are out of 100 possible points. A score of 100 indicates that recommendations on average were met or exceeded. A higher total score indicates a higher quality diet.

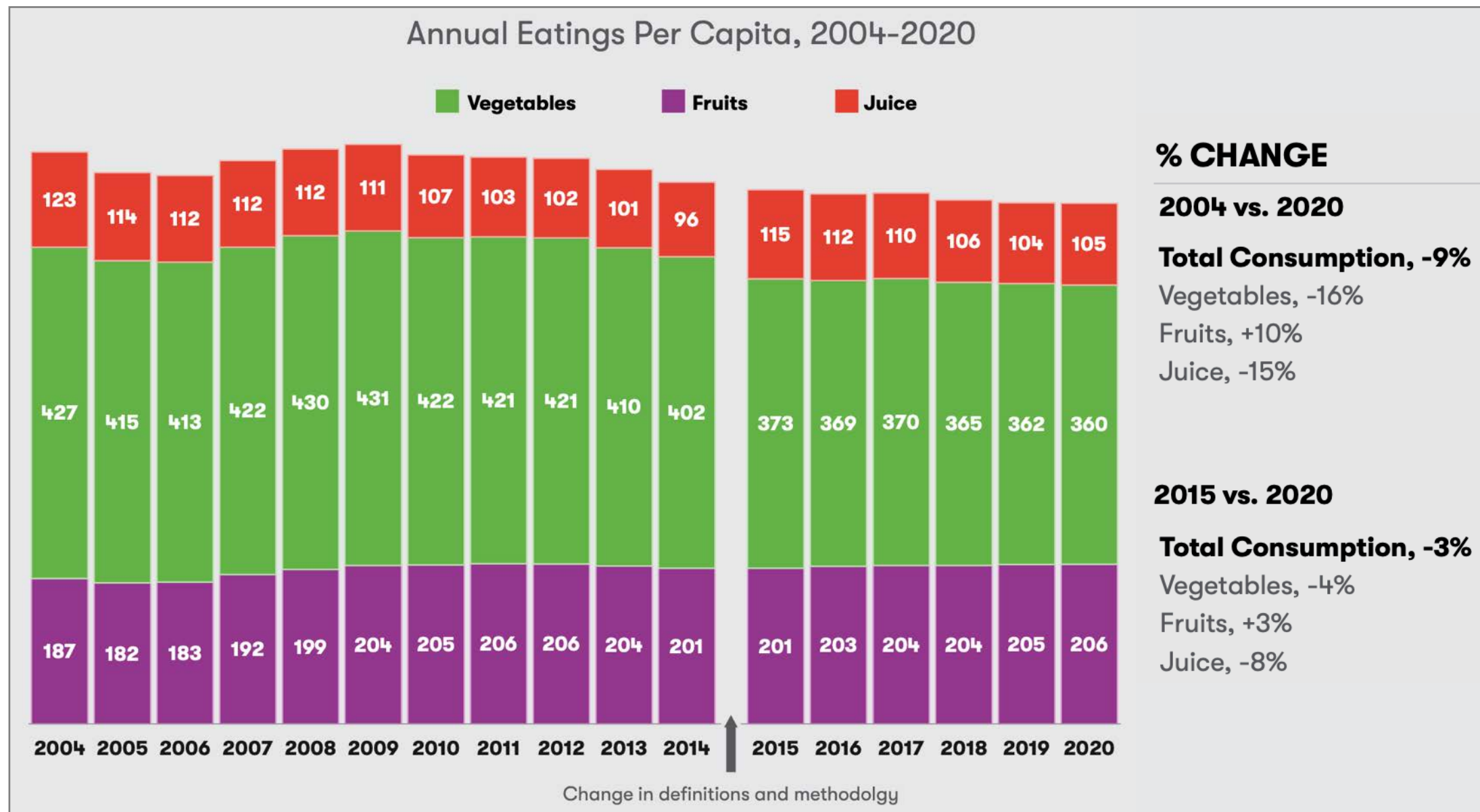
**Data Source:** Analysis of What We Eat in America, NHANES 2015-2016, ages 2 and older, day 1 dietary intake data, weighted.

# The Fruit and Vegetable Gap



[www.dietaryguidelines.gov](http://www.dietaryguidelines.gov)




# PBH “State Of The Plate” Data



<https://fruitsandveggies.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2020-PBH-State-Of-The-Plate-Executive-Summary-1.pdf>

# PBH “State Of The Plate” Data

## Consumption Trends:

-  Since 2015, fruit (excluding juice) has experienced slight increases in net consumption frequency.
-  Juice consumption declined by 8% between 2015 and 2020.
-  Total number of vegetable eating occasions has been declining for the last 16-years. This is in part due to fewer side dishes and side salads being served at restaurants.

### TOP GROWING FRUITS

Annual eating occasions per capita change, 2015-2020

1. Bananas, +2.3
2. Grapes, +1.9
3. Blueberries, +1.8
4. Strawberries, +0.9
5. Oranges, +0.7

### TOP DECLINING FRUITS

Annual eating occasions per capita change, 2015-2020

1. Raisins, -1.3
2. Mixed Fruit, -0.8
3. Peaches, -0.8
4. Cantaloupe, -0.6
5. Pineapple, -0.5
6. Apples, -0.2

### TOP GROWING VEGETABLES

Annual eating occasions per capita change, 2015-2020

1. Potatoes (including fries), +5.3
2. Caesar Salad, +2.5
3. Avocados, +1.2
4. Tomato Sauce/Paste, +0.9
5. Tomato Salsa, +0.9

### TOP DECLINING VEGETABLES

Annual eating occasions per capita change, 2015-2020

1. Onions, -7.2
2. Tomatoes, -6.3
3. Green Salads, -6.0
4. Lettuce, -5.4
5. Carrots, -3.9

### TOP FRUITS CONSUMED BY FREQUENCY

Annual eating occasions per capita

1. Bananas, 41.9
2. Apples, 28.2
3. Strawberries, 13.7
4. Oranges, 12.8
5. Grapes, 12.6
6. Blueberries, 11.7
7. Applesauce, 7.3
8. Watermelon, 5.8
9. Lemons, 5.7
10. Fruit salad, 4.9
11. Peaches, 4.7
12. Pineapple, 4.3

### TOP FRUITS CONSUMED BY VOLUME

Average cups per occasion

1. Melons, 2
2. Apples, 1.3
3. Peaches, 1.2
4. Citrus, 0.9
5. Bananas, 0.9
6. Applesauce, 0.7
7. Berries, 0.7
8. Grapes, 0.6
9. Dried fruit, 0.5
10. Single/mixed nuts, 0.4

### TOP VEGETABLES CONSUMED BY FREQUENCY

Annual eating occasions per capita

1. Lettuce/vegetable salads, 61.2
2. French fries, 45.3
3. Onions, 31.6
4. Tomatoes, 27.1
5. Carrots, 20.8
6. Mashed potatoes, 19.0
7. Beans/legumes, 18.3
8. Corn, 15.7
9. Peppers, 14.7
10. Broccoli, 13.7
11. Green beans, 13.7
12. Baked potato, 11.2
13. Celery, 8.7

### TOP VEGETABLES CONSUMED BY VOLUME

Average cups per occasion

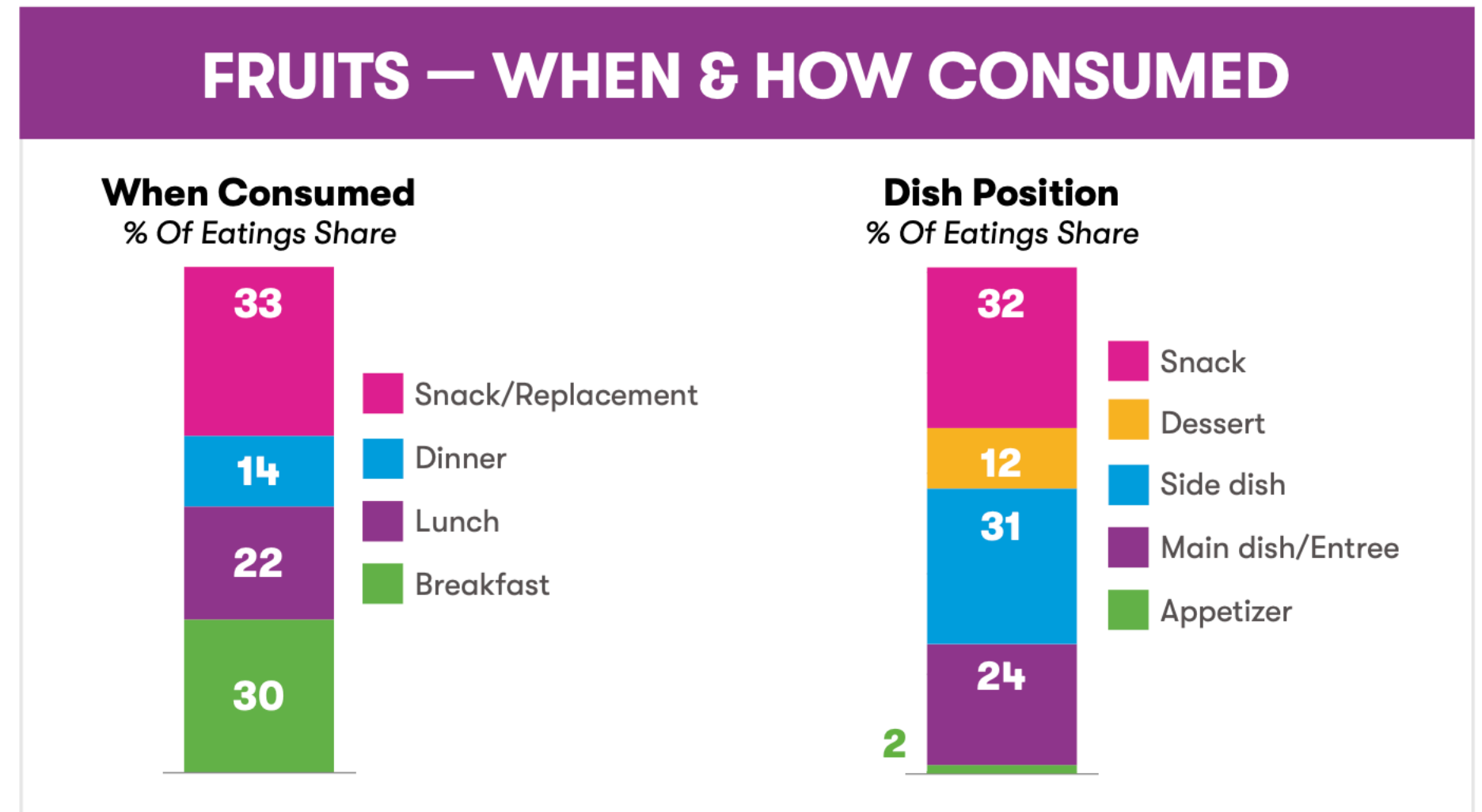
1. Lettuce/salads, 2.9
2. French fries, 2.1
3. Green beans, 1.6
4. Broccoli, 1.5
5. Beans/legumes, 1.4
6. Corn, 1.2
7. Carrots, 0.9
8. Mashed potatoes, 0.9
9. Peppers, 0.8
10. Tomatoes, 0.7

<https://fruitsandveggies.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2020-PBH-State-Of-The-Plate-Executive-Summary-1.pdf>

# PBH “State Of The Plate” Data




## Consumption Trends:

- By all accounts, fruit has a wide appeal. Consumption seems somewhat balanced throughout meal and snack occasions and is versatile across multiple dishes.
- The exception is appetizers, representing a growth opportunity for fruits.



# PBH “State Of The Plate” Data

## Motivators and Barriers to Intake:

-  Most Americans already KNOW fruits and vegetables support better health and wellbeing – yet knowledge alone does not yield new fruit and vegetable consumption behaviors. Experts agree that effective consumer education and engagement must lean into how people feel about eating fruits and vegetables and then inspire environments that make Doing easy and habitual.
-  Over half of adults in the U.S. say they are making an effort to eat more fruit (53%) and vegetables (56%) and this desire to eat more increases with age.
-  Barriers to intake include **finding new menu ideas, staying within budget, planning healthy meals, and finding meals quickly.**

## TOP FRUIT & VEGETABLE MOTIVATORS

Which of the following describes why the [fruit item] was chosen?

Which of the following describes why the [vegetable item] was chosen?

Rank	Motivators	% Of Occasions
1	It was healthy/nutritious	34.1
2	It was quick/easy to make/get	33.0
3	It's a favorite	27.9
4	I regularly serve or have	23.0
5	It was made with items on hand	18.5

Rank	Motivators	% Of Occasions
1	It's a favorite	29.2
2	It was quick/easy to make/get	24.8
3	It was healthy/nutritious	22.2
4	It was made with items on hand	19.2
5	Satisfied craving/specific taste	15.5

<https://fruitsandveggies.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2020-PBH-State-Of-The-Plate-Executive-Summary-1.pdf>

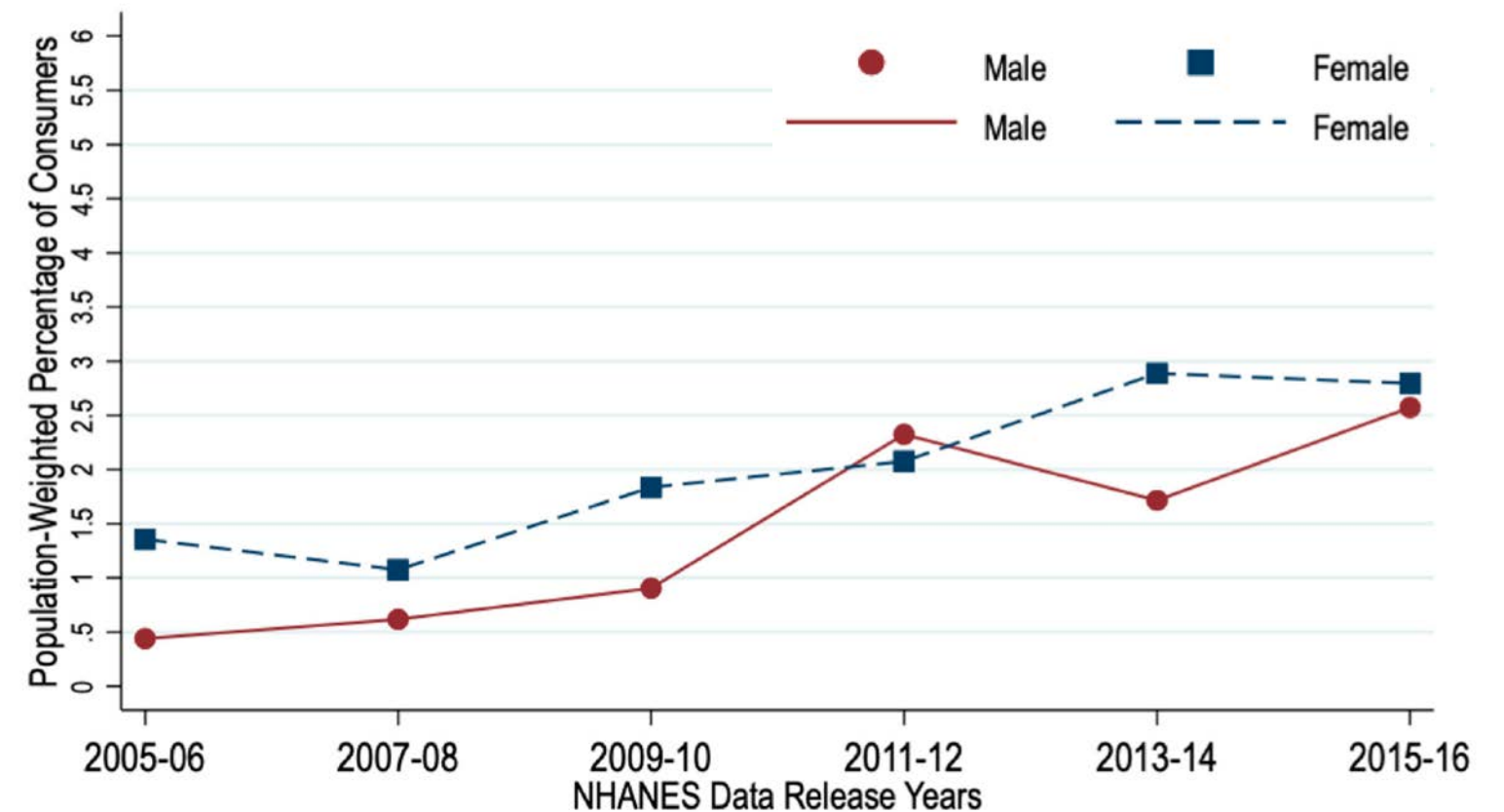


# Increasing Intake Through "Carrier Foods"

## Our Research – Chickpeas and Hummus:

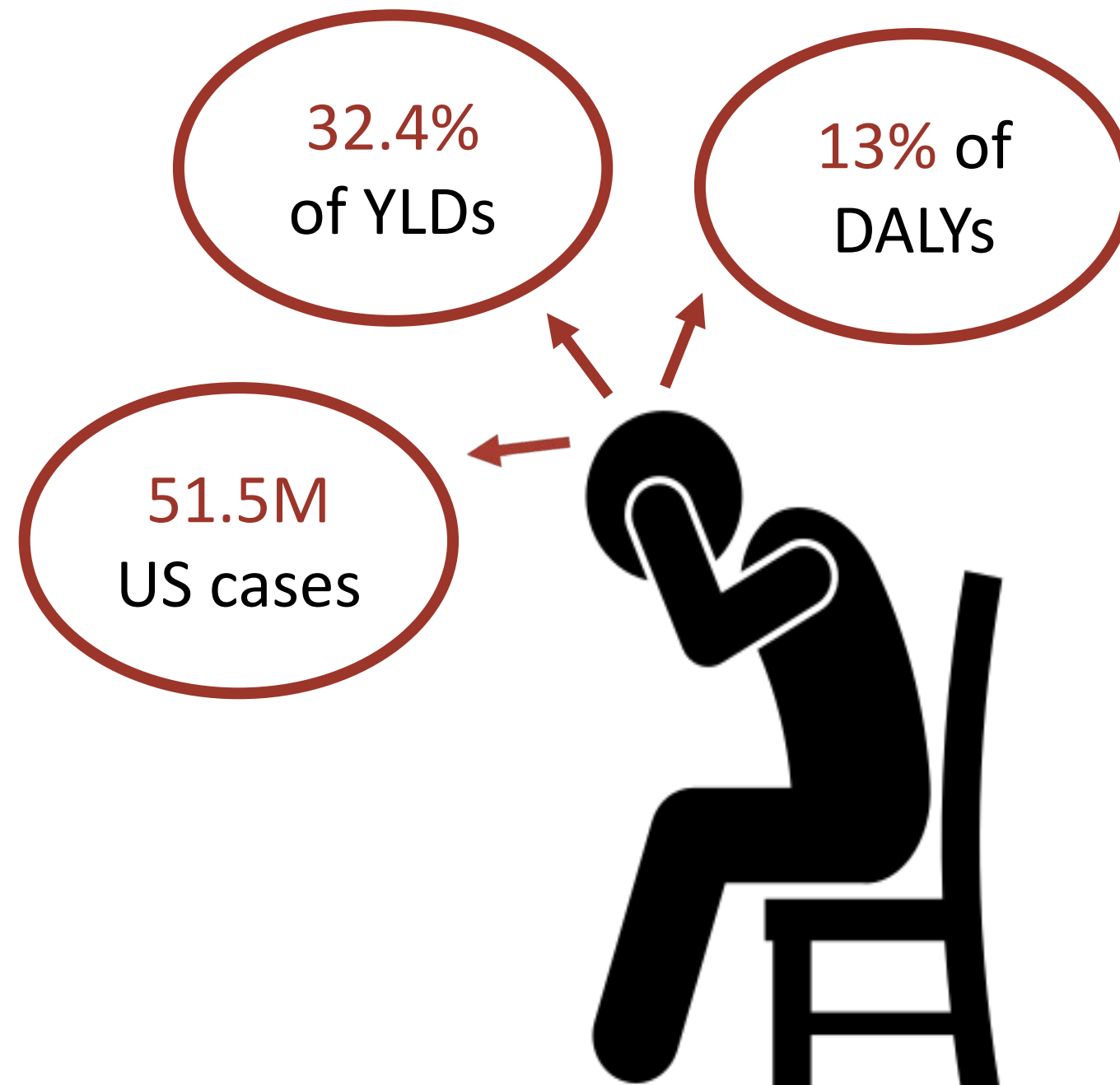
Chickpea and hummus consumption was associated higher intakes of fruits, total and dark green vegetables, total protein foods, whole grains, and lower intakes of meat and added sugars.

Food Group	Hummus		<i>p</i> <sup>2</sup>
	Consumers ( <i>n</i> = 392)	Non-Consumers ( <i>n</i> = 37,160)	
Fruit (cup eq.)	1.36 (0.09)	1.00 (0.02)	<0.001
Vegetables (cup eq.)	1.98 (0.07)	1.36 (0.01)	<0.001
Dark green veg. (cup eq.)	0.31 (0.03)	0.13 (0.01)	<0.001
Whole grains (ounce eq.)	1.54 (0.10)	0.84 (0.01)	<0.001
Refined grains (ounce eq.)	5.86 (0.22)	5.67 (0.03)	0.252
Total protein foods (ounce eq.)	6.70 (0.27)	5.73 (0.04)	<0.001
Meat (ounce eq.)	1.02 (0.12)	1.53 (0.02)	<0.001
Total dairy (cup eq.)	1.69 (0.08)	1.72 (0.02)	0.895
Added sugars (g)	12.2 (0.67)	17.3 (0.16)	<0.001



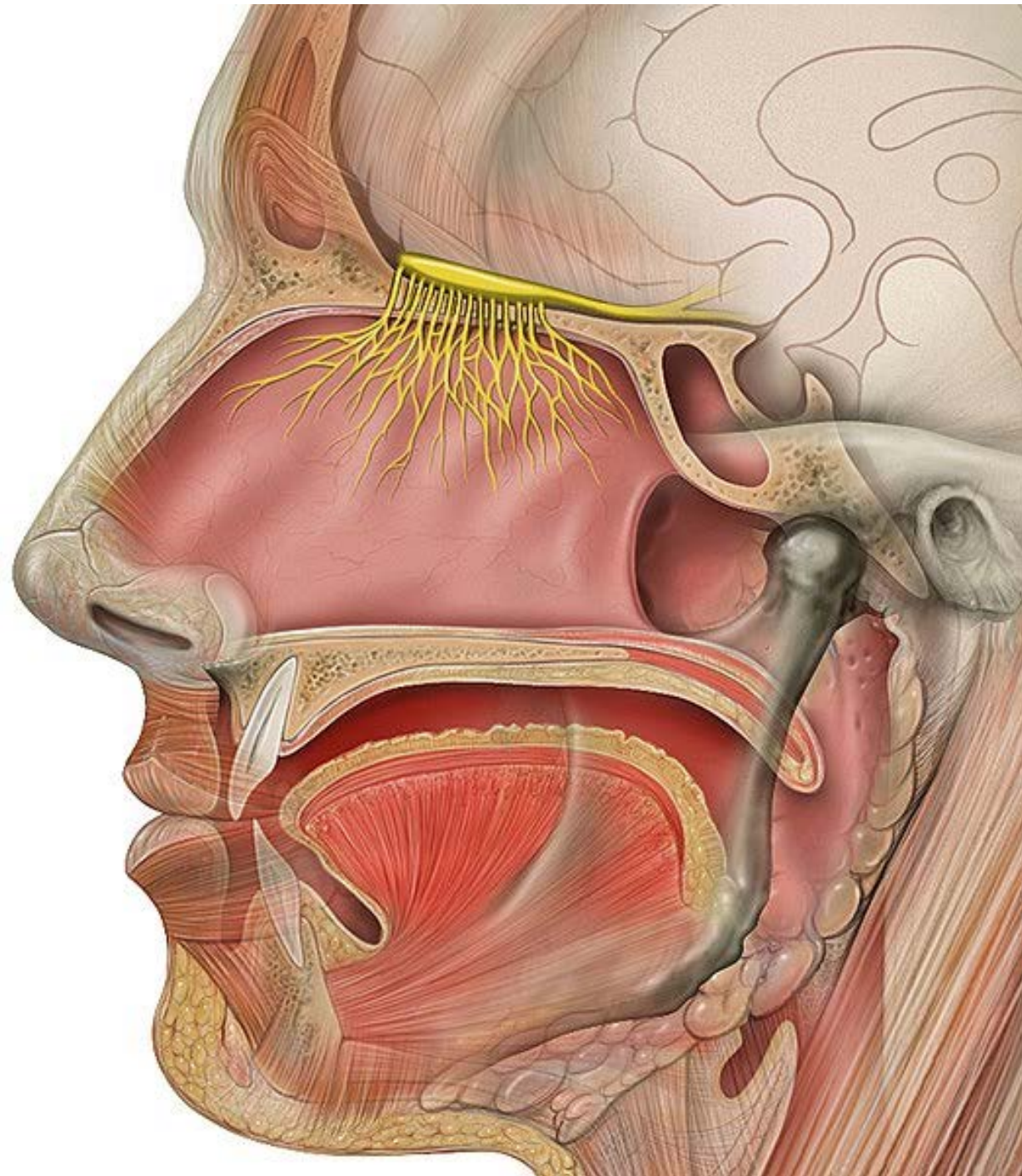
Appl Sci. 2020;10:7341.

# Mental Health



Lancet Psychiatry. 2016; 3(2):171.  
MentalHealth.com [\(click here\)](#)  
National Institutes of Health [\(click here\)](#)

# Mental Health



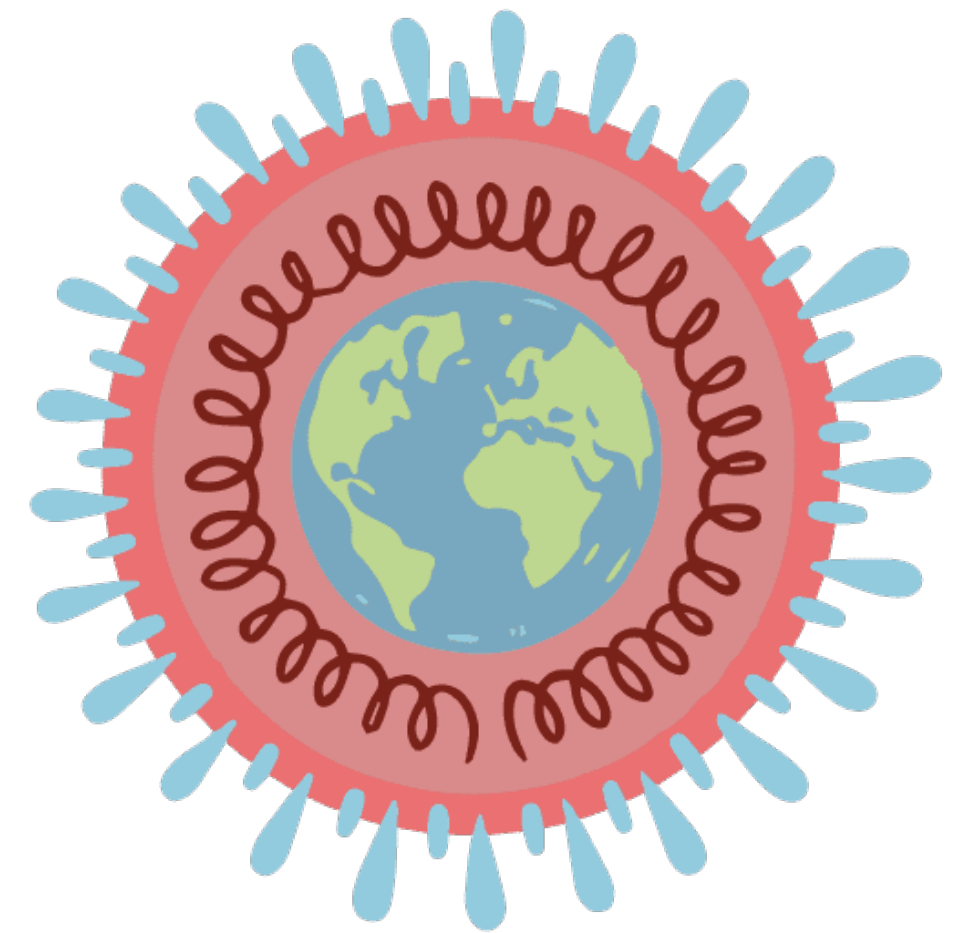
**COVID-19**, initially considered a respiratory illness, has a broader virulence spectrum with the **ability to cross the blood-brain barrier** and inflict a multitude of neuropathological manifestations in the brain.

**Olfactory impairment** is common.

Nature Med. 2020; 26: 1017.  
Nat Rev Immunol. 2020; 20:363.  
Neurol Neurosurg. 2020;106349.  
Lancet Psychiatry. 2020; 7(10):875.

# Post-COVID Health Complications

Over **13% of COVID-19 patients** with severe initial disease had neurological complications such as hypoxic injury. Long—COVID syndrome, marked by fatigue, anxiety, depression, memory loss, and additional problems is not dependent on initial severity of the illness. Such symptoms may **persist for six months or more in as many as 30% of patients** with mild acute illness long after markers of infection have disappeared.





J Health Serv Psychol. 2022;48:1-2.

# The RESTORE Study



 NutRitional CarE Practices and STatus Of SARS-CoV-2 PatiEnts

 The overall goal is to identify **standard nutrition care practices that show potential in influencing the burden of disease** in patients admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) using the AND Health Informatics Infrastructure (ANDHII).

 **10 ICUs collected data on ~100** patients utilizing the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Health Informatics Infrastructure (ANDHII).

DOI: 10.1002/jpen.2106

**BRIEF COMMUNICATION**



### Nutrition care practice patterns for patients with COVID-19—A preliminary report

Velarie Ansu MS<sup>1</sup> | Constantina Papoutsakis PhD, RDN<sup>2</sup> | Nana Gletsu-Miller PhD<sup>1</sup> | Lisa A. Spence PhD, RD<sup>1</sup> | Kathryn Kelley MPH<sup>2</sup> | Lindsay Woodcock MS, RDN<sup>2</sup> | Taylor C. Wallace PhD, CFS<sup>3,4,5</sup> | Alison Steiber PhD, RDN<sup>2,6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Applied Health Science, School of Public Health, Indiana University Bloomington, Bloomington, Indiana, USA  
<sup>2</sup> Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Chicago, Illinois, USA  
<sup>3</sup> Think Healthy Group, Washington, District of Columbia, USA  
<sup>4</sup> Department of Nutrition and Food Studies, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA  
<sup>5</sup> Center for Magnesium Education & Research, Pahoehoe, Hawaii, USA  
<sup>6</sup> Department of Nutrition, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, USA

**Correspondence**  
Lindsay Woodcock, MS, RDN, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995.  
Email: lwoodcock@eatright.org

**Abstract**  
**Background:** Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 is a respiratory virus that poses risks to the nutrition status and survival of infected patients, yet there is paucity of data to inform evidence-based quality care.  
**Methods:** We collected data on the nutrition care provided to patients with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs).  
**Results:** Hospitalized COVID-19 patients (N = 101) in this cohort were older adults and had elevated body mass index. The most frequent nutrition problems were inadequate oral intake (46.7%), inadequate energy intake (18.9%), and malnutrition (18.4%). These problems were managed predominantly with enteral nutrition, food supplements, and multivitamin-multimineral supplement therapy. Over 90% of documented problems required a follow-up.  
**Conclusion:** This data set is the first of its kind to report on the types of nutrition diagnoses and interventions for COVID-19 cases used by RDNs and highlights the need for increased and continued nutrition care.

**KEYWORDS**  
coronavirus infections, critical care, dietary supplements, dietetics, enteral nutrition, informatics, intensive care unit, nutrition, nutrition care process terminology, nutrition status, practice guidelines, research and diseases

J Parenter Enteral Nutr. 2021;45:1774-1778.

# Mental Health

Brain activity is a high-energy and high-nutrient demanding process.



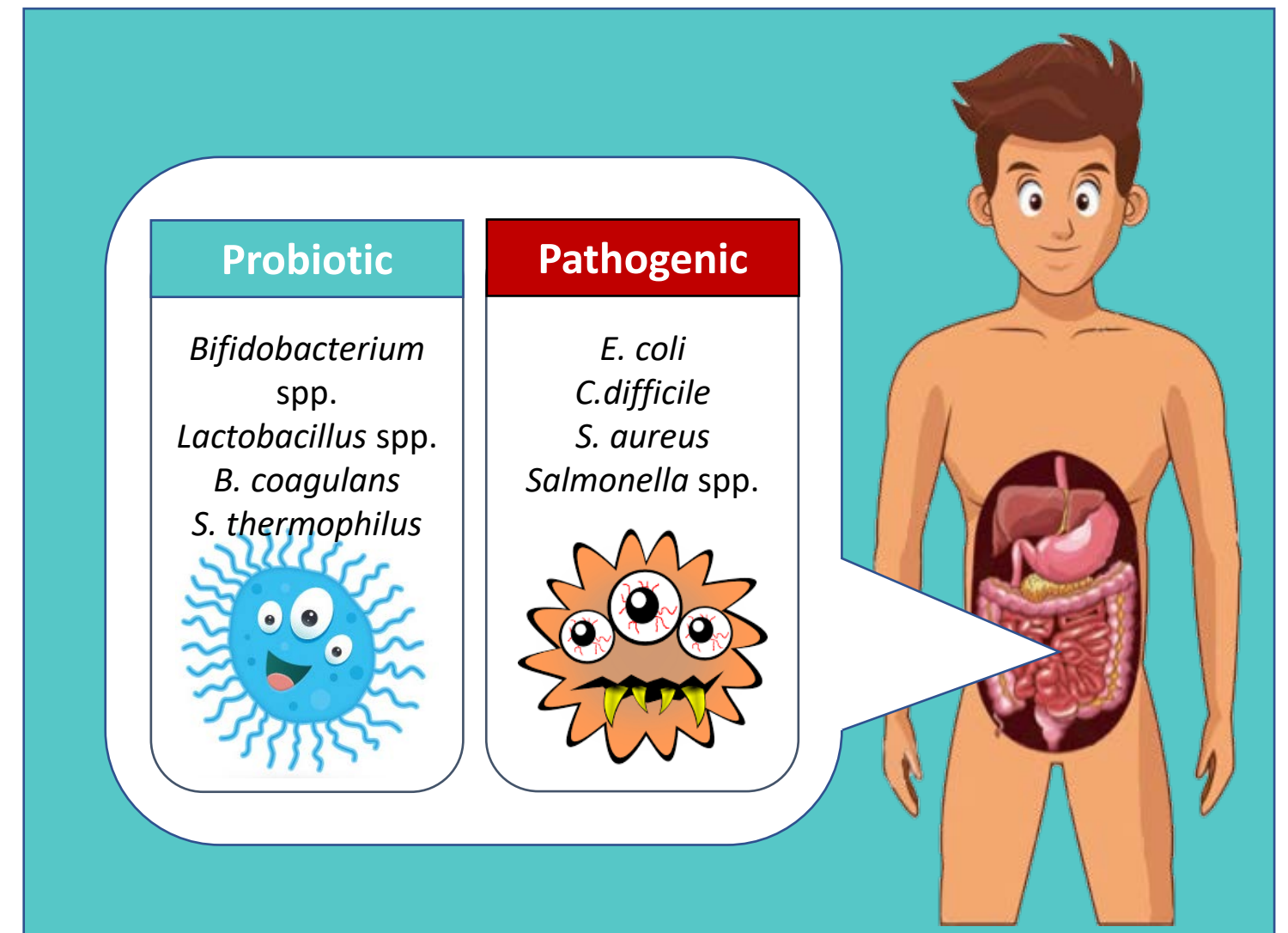
Imbalances in ROS and RNS leads to oxidative stress and damage.

J Diet Suppl. 2020. [1922567](#)

# Mental Health – the GI Microbiome

The gastrointestinal tract produces **95%** of the body's serotonin.

Function of the millions of neurons lining the gastrointestinal tract is **highly influenced by the microbiome.**



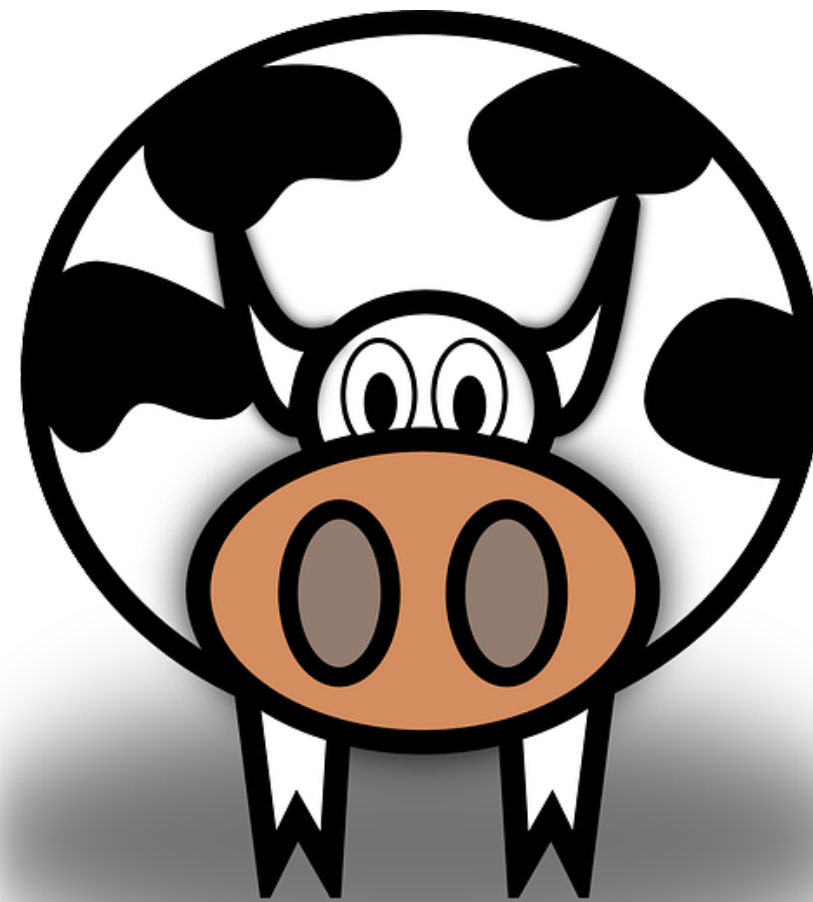
[Harvard University](#)

Nutrients. 2021; 13:690.

# Mental Health - Sleep

Serotonin helps regulate sleep. Sleep supports the **clearance of waste products across the blood-brain barrier.**

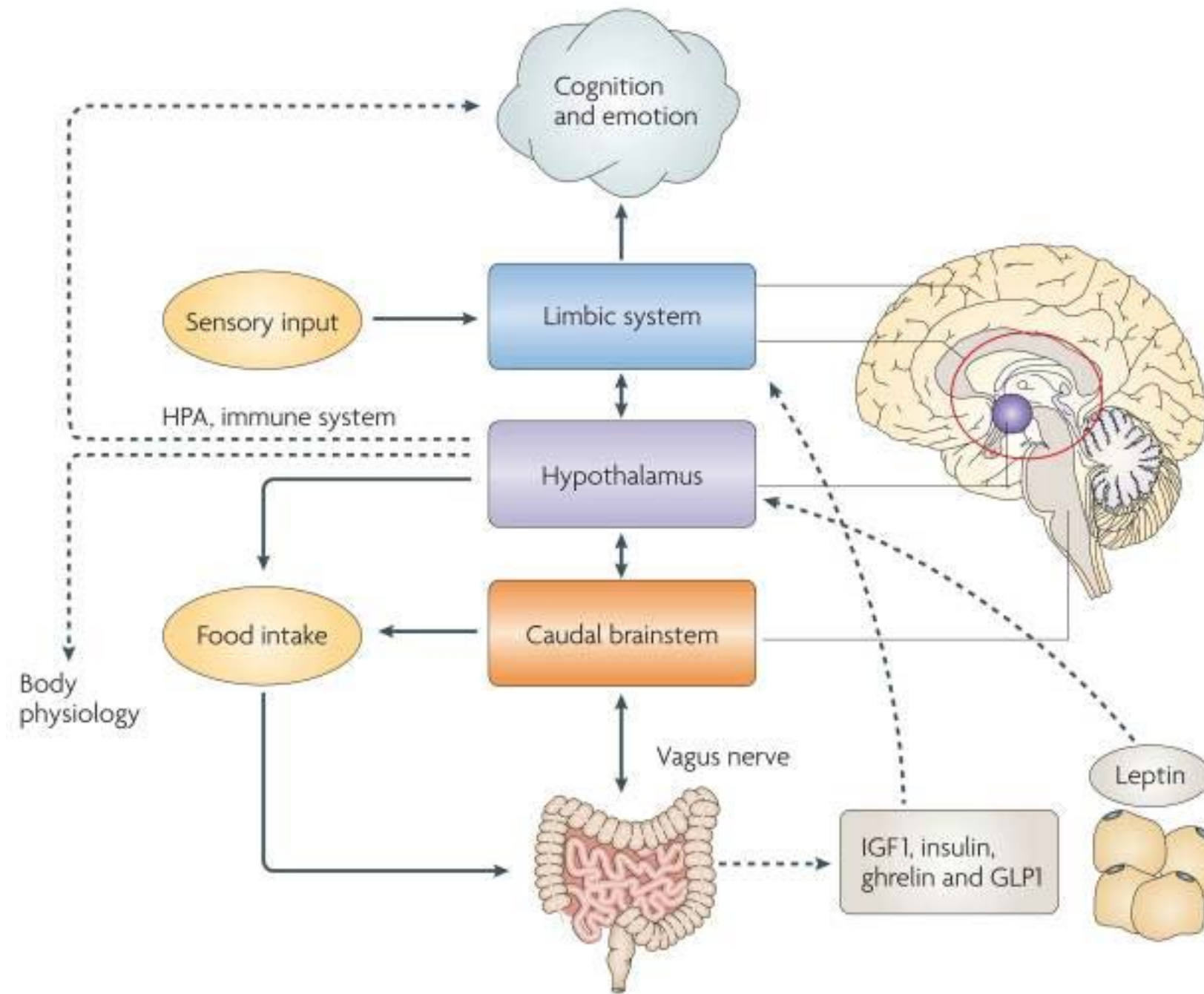
Circadian rhythm in the blood-brain barrier controls the transporter function and **regulates permeability.**



J Diet Suppl. 2020. [1922567](#)

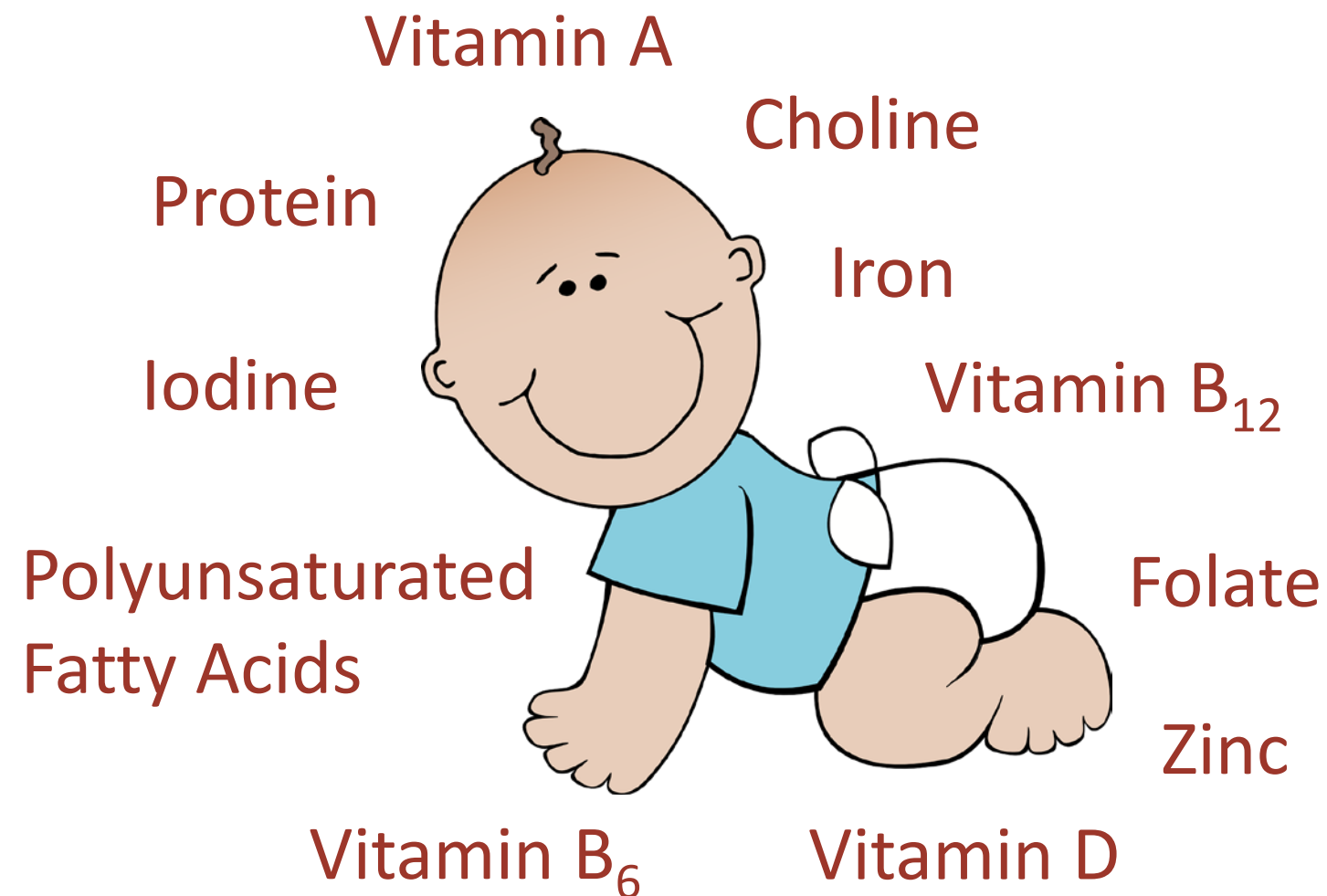


# Mental Health



Nat Rev Neurosci. 2008; 9(7):568.

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## FROM THE ACADEMY

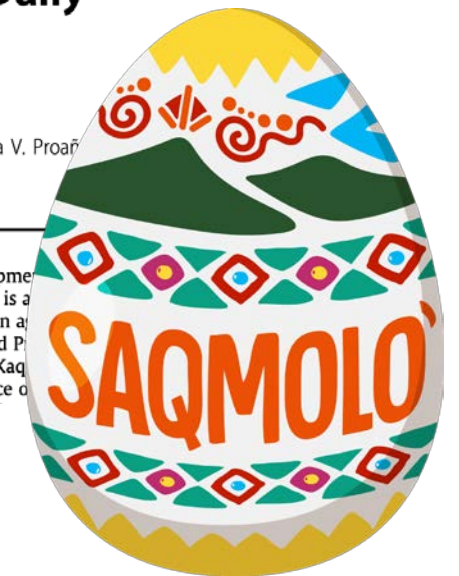


### Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Nutrition Research Network: The *Saqmolo'* Project Rationale and Study Protocol for a Randomized Controlled Trial Examining the Influence of Daily Complementary Feeding of Eggs on Infant Development and Growth in Guatemala

Taylor C. Wallace, PhD, CFS, FACN; Peter Rohloff, MD, PhD; Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, PhD, RDN, LD; Gabriela V. Proaño, PhD; Gabriela Montenegro-Bethancourt, PhD; George P. McCabe, PhD; Alison Steiber, PhD, RD

#### ABSTRACT

Adequate nutrition during the complementary feeding period is critical for optimal child growth and development, long-term educational attainment and economic potential. To prioritize limited public health resources, there is a need to rigorously assess the influence of multicomponent integrated nutrition interventions in children younger than 2 years in low- and middle-income contexts. This study aimed to describe the rationale and protocol for the *Saqmolo'* Project using the Standard Protocol Recommendations for Interventional Trials (SPIRIT) guidelines. The *Saqmolo'* (ie, "egg" in the Mayan language, Kaq'chikel) is an individually randomized, partially blinded, controlled comparative effectiveness trial to evaluate the influence of

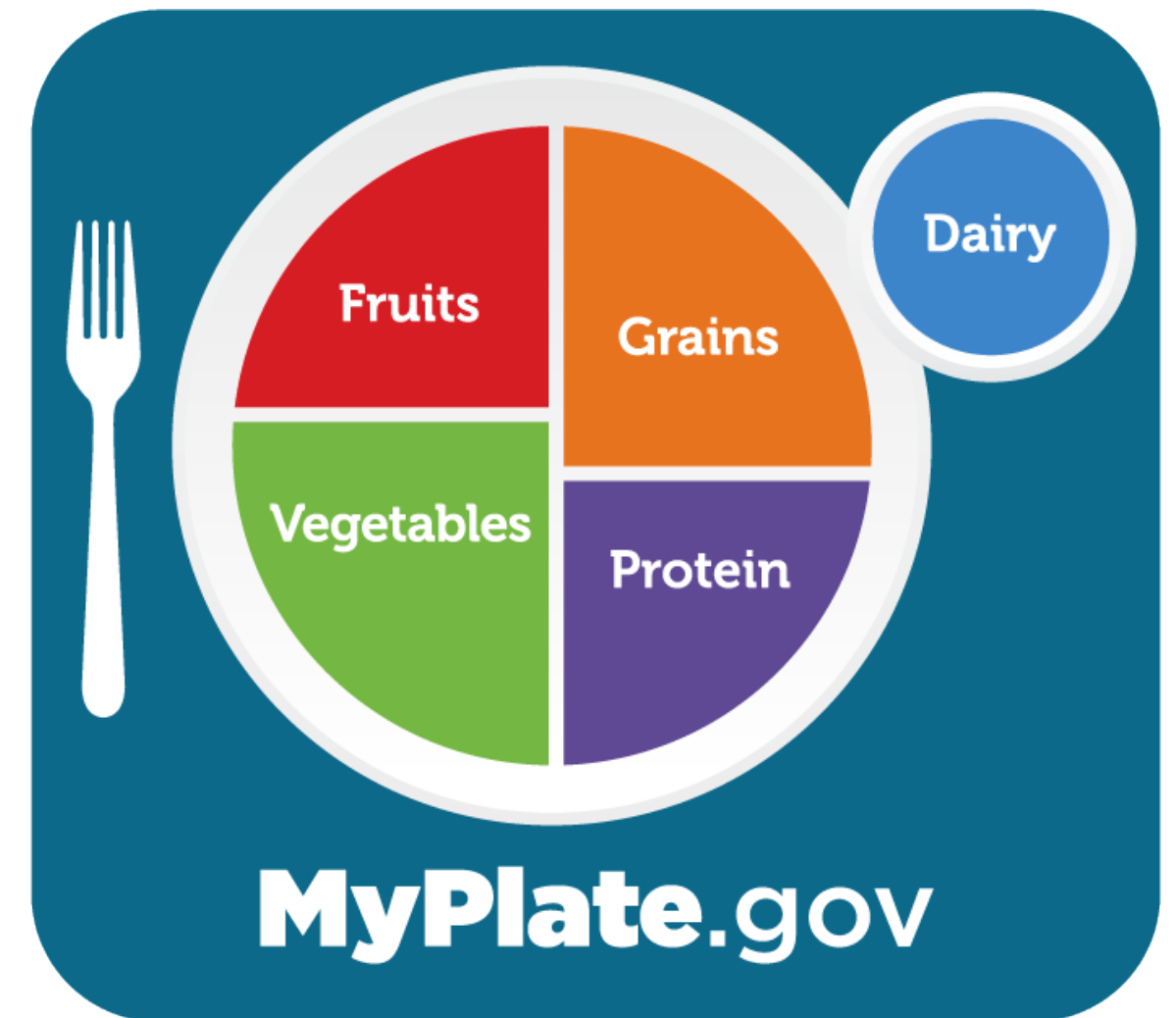


Pediatrics. 2018; 141(2):e20173716.  
J Acad Nutr Diet. 2022;122(2):432-444.  
[www.drtylwallace.com/saqmolo](http://www.drtylwallace.com/saqmolo)

# Nutrients Impacting The Brain

There is a growing body of research to substantiate the benefits of many nutrients including **omega-3 fatty acids**, **vitamin D**, the **B-complex vitamins**, **vitamin E**, **magnesium**, **iron**, **zinc**, **choline**, **calcium**, and **selenium** to help optimize brain function and prevent mental disease.

It is not just one single nutrient that is important!



Pediatrics. 2018; 141(2):e20173716.

# The MIND Diet



Born as a hybrid of two existing diets with decades of research – the DASH diet and Mediterranean diet – **the MIND diet emphasizes foods that impact brain health:**

- Green leafy and other vegetables
- Nuts
- Berries
- Beans
- Whole grains
- Fish
- Poultry
- Olive oil
- Wine

# The MIND Diet



Let's go beyond The MIND Diet. Certain foods have shown superior effects on cognition.

- Avocados
- Blueberries
- Concord grape juice
- Strawberries
- Brazil nuts
- Fresh, lean pork

Nutrients. 2017;9:919.  
Adv Nutr. 2020;11(2):224.  
Nutrients. 2019;11:3060.  
Eur J Nutr. 2016;55(1):107.  
Nutrients. 2019;11(7):1521.



# Q & A

# JOIN THE MOVEMENT



Show your support by joining the Have A Plant® community at [fruitsandveggies.org/jointhenetwork](https://fruitsandveggies.org/jointhenetwork)

While you're there, check out our useful resources, continuing education opportunities to enhance your nutrition knowledge and tools that support you in empowering consumers at [fruitsandveggies.org/educational-resources](https://fruitsandveggies.org/educational-resources)

And don't forget to follow PBH's social channels to keep up to date on all the insights and inspiration! #haveaplant



September is National Fruits & Veggies Month and each year we celebrate Have A Plant® during this monumental moment as a way to elevate fruit and vegetable consumption to a national priority.

Keep an eye out for the 2022 National Fruits & Veggies Month toolkit in early July with turnkey resources to make sharing the #haveaplant love deliciously easy!

Start planning for September today! #NFVM2022

# HELP SUPPORT FRUIT & VEGGIE CONSUMPTION!

If you enjoyed today's Health & Wellness webinar and would like to support our overall mission of increasing fruit and vegetable consumption, we encourage you to make a **tax-deductible donation** today.

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, your donation helps us deliver programming, including our monthly health and wellness webinars, actionable research, future-focused education, a comprehensive digital ecosystem, and inspirational resources that helps millions discover the joy of eating fruit and vegetables each and every day.

**TOGETHER – with your support – we are creating happier, healthier lives!**

To donate, add the Donations app to Zoom: <https://pldg.to/RiLcYw>

Or donate with your phone: Text **HAVEAPLANT** to **707070** (US only)



**A catalog of PBH's past webinars is available at [fruitsandveggies.org/expert-professionals/webinars](https://fruitsandveggies.org/expert-professionals/webinars).**

**Continuing professional education units (CPEU) are available for live and pre-recorded webinars.**



# THANK YOU!

We live at the center of produce,  
partnership and passion.

## WE ARE SO HAPPY YOU'RE WITH US!

