



# FOOD FOR 9 BILLION

The Challenge of Feeding the World

## Macronutrient Analysis

### Teacher Notes

#### Before You Start

##### Grade Level:

Grade 9-12, could be adapted for middle school

##### Concepts Covered:

Carbohydrate, fat, protein, Recommended Daily Intake (RDI), food labeling.

##### Time Frame:

Part 1 – Personal Intake and Macronutrient Analysis

- Introduction (20 minutes)
- Data collection (homework)
- Data analysis: computing RDI values and questions (50 minute class)

Part 2 – US and Haitian Diet Macronutrient Analysis (50 minutes)

##### Materials Needed:

Part 1: Personal Intake and Macronutrient Analysis

- **Personal Intake Analysis** handout
- **Personal Food Intake Log for Macronutrient Analysis** handout
- Meter stick, scale, computer with internet access
- Printed copies of **Reference DRI** charts

Part 2: US and Haitian Diet Comparisons

- **Profile Comparisons** handout
- Graph Paper

#### Overview

Why is food important to our bodies? In this data-rich lesson, students will learn about macronutrients and why our bodies need them. Students begin by recording their personal daily food intake and analyzing their own macronutrient consumption according to US standards. Students then compare macronutrient consumption profiles of teenagers from different countries. The two parts can be done in sequence or independently.

#### Objectives

1. Students will define and describe what calories, carbohydrates, fats, and proteins are.
2. Students will collect data and analyze that data in reference to US dietary standards.
3. Students will evaluate the validity of their data collection methods.
4. Students will create a bar graph to compare two data sets and summarize that comparison in writing.
5. Students will consider the implications of and remedies for under- and over- consumption of macronutrients.

#### Prior Knowledge

Students need a basic understanding of the following terms: nutrient, macronutrient, water, Calorie, carbohydrate, fat, and protein.

#### Teaching Tips/Activity Sequence

##### Part 1 – Personal Intake and Macronutrient Analysis

*A note before beginning:* Please be very sensitive to issues concerning being over- or underweight. The purpose of this exercise is simply to think about macronutrients in terms of one's personal nutrition, not to replace the advice of a physician.

1. Introduce the activity.
  - Briefly review macronutrients and their significance with the class. This lesson assumes that students have already learned what macronutrients are, and—to some extent—how they

are used in the body. See the resources section below for websites that provide information about macronutrients.

- Review instructions and expectations for collecting personal data. Demonstrate some examples of data collection.
2. Students should collect food intake data for two days. Encourage students to sample two weekdays rather than weekends, as the weekdays most likely provide a more accurate representation of what they eat.
  3. Students should calculate their recommended intake values, either working alone or in small groups. For this step, a meter stick or tape measure may be required if students do not know their heights.
    - As an alternative to reading the DRI charts, students could log in to [MyPyramid.gov](http://MyPyramid.gov) or use the USDA online healthcare professional calculator at <http://fnic.nal.usda.gov/interactiveDRI> to obtain their DRI information.
  4. Students can work alone or in small groups to analyze their data and answer the questions.
  5. Discuss students' findings as a group. Questions you may wish to ask include:
    - What did you find most surprising after you analyzed your macronutrient intakes?
    - Do you think you need to change anything about your diets? What & why?
    - Are there any particular foods that you found to be nutrient rich or nutrient poor?

## Part 2 – Diet Comparisons

1. Introduce the activity.
  - Ask students how they think their diets compare to those of teenagers living in other places. Explain that they are going to compare their macronutrient consumption to that of a student from Haiti.
  - *Note:* If students have not completed Part 1, or if they do not want to use their own data, two fictionalized profiles of US teens are included. This activity could also be completed with data from two or more profiles instead of using personal data.
2. Assign a Haitian profile to each student. The student is responsible for reading the background information on the profiled teenager and entering the provided nutritional values on the data table. Only the totals for each category will be compared.
3. Students will then create a column graph depicting their own nutritional values compared to those of the Haitian profile. They will use this visual comparison to answer the discussion questions.
4. Ask a volunteer to share their graph with the class. The student should share a brief summary of the Haitian individual's story and how their nutrition differed.

## Activity Suggestions

Students may need help creating suitable axes for the column graph. If so, model setting up the graph for the class or select students in the following steps/questions:

1. Our graph needs a title. What will the graph show us? (Diet Comparisons)
2. The X-axis of a column graph will tell us about our categories that we measured. Which categories are we measuring? (Calories, Fat, Saturated Fat, Carbohydrates, and Protein)
3. We named five categories. How many blocks should we use for each category? (Answer will vary based on graph paper, but generally the axis should fill the page.)
4. The Y-axis of a column graph will show us numbers to measure the amount of our nutrient categories. What unit do we use to measure our categories? (Calories and grams)
5. How will we tell the difference between these two units? (Color code, etc.)

6. What range do we need to use for these measurements? In other words, where do we need to start numbering and stop numbering the Y-axis? (Answers will vary)
7. If we have a range of \_\_\_ to \_\_\_, how should we space out the numbers on the axis so they cover most of the page? (Answers will vary)
8. Now we are ready to draw in our columns. For each category, we have to show a column for both your data and for the profiled teenager's data. How will we tell whom the columns belong to? (Color, fill, legend, etc)

## Extensions

- *Make Your Calories Count* is an interactive tool helps people understand how to use the nutrition facts label for healthy weight management. Available at: <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/videos/CFSAN/HWM/hwmintro.cfm>
- *The Food Label and You* is an entertaining video about serving size, calories, and % daily value. Available at: <http://www.fda.gov/Food/LabelingNutrition/ConsumerInformation/ucm246815.htm>

## Resources

1. **You Are What You Eat** lesson available as part of this nutrition unit.
2. Background information about macronutrients and digestion:
  - CDC Nutrition basics website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nutrition/everyone/basics/index.html>
  - <http://www.merckmanuals.com/professional/sec01/ch001/ch001a.html> - v881322
  - NDDIC: Your Digestive System and How it Works <http://digestive.niddk.nih.gov/ddiseases/pubs/yrdd/>
3. American Heart Association Webpage on Sugar: [http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/GettingHealthy/NutritionCenter/HealthyDietGoals/Sugars-and-Carbohydrates\\_UCM\\_303296\\_Article.jsp](http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/GettingHealthy/NutritionCenter/HealthyDietGoals/Sugars-and-Carbohydrates_UCM_303296_Article.jsp)
4. US FDA: How to Understand and Use the Nutrition Facts Label <http://www.fda.gov/Food/LabelingNutrition/ConsumerInformation/ucm078889.htm>
5. US DRI Charts:
  - Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Recommended Intakes for Individuals, Macronutrients
  - Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Acceptable Macronutrient Distribution Ranges
  - Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Estimated Energy Requirements (EER) for Men and Women 30 Years of Age

## Standards

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*National Science Education Standards  
Grades 9-12*

Life Science  
The Cell 1.2  
Matter, energy, and organization in living things  
5.2, 5.3, 5.6  
Science in Personal and Social Perspectives  
Personal and Community Health 1.1, 1.2, 1.5

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*Common Core State Standards for Literacy in  
History / Social Studies,  
Science and Technical Subjects 6-12*

Reading Standards  
Key Ideas and Details RST1  
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas RST7, RST9  
Writing Standards  
Text Types and Purposes WHST2  
Production and Distribution of Writing WHST4  
Range of Writing WHST10

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrient Personal Intake Analysis

### What Am I Eating? A Personal Intake and Macronutrient Analysis

Why is food so important to human bodies? It provides the nutrients – both macronutrients and micronutrients – that the cells in our bodies use for everything they do. Are you consuming the macronutrients you need? Do you eat enough protein, fat, and carbohydrates? Too much? To know, you first need to understand what you are eating. Let's take a look.

#### **First: Track your food consumption for two days**

Use the Personal Food Intake Log provided to keep track of your food intake. You will compile a list of everything you consume for 2 days and then determine the macronutrient composition for each item. Try to eat as you usually do; don't consciously change your pattern for better or for worse. Include water as well as any other beverages in your log.

- Record each item you eat or drink and how much you had. Note the serving size, if that information is available on the label. Then record either the number of servings you ate or the amount you ate in teaspoons, cups, grams, number of items, etc.
- You will be keeping track of energy (Calories), total fat (grams), saturated fat (grams), carbohydrates (grams), sugars (grams), and protein (grams). If you eat a packaged food with a nutrition label, you can gather this nutritional information directly from the package.
- Complex items, such as a salad can be difficult to record. You should try to separate the salad into the various main components as best you can: lettuce, spinach, celery, carrots, dressing, etc.
- If your food doesn't have a nutritional label, you will have to use an online database to get its macronutrient data. We suggest you use [http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/cgi-bin/nut\\_search.pl](http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/cgi-bin/nut_search.pl).

On your intake log you can record both the "per serving" amount and the total amount for a particular macronutrient. You compute the total amount by multiplying the "per serving" amount by the number of servings you ate. For example, say that one serving of potato chips, listed as 6 chips, has 5 grams of total fat per serving. If you ate 12 chips, you ate a total of 10 grams of fat (2 servings \* 6 chips/serving \* 5 grams fat = 10).

total fat (grams)	
per serving	total

#### **Second: Calculate your Recommended Daily Intakes**

1. Record your height and weight on the table below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrient Personal Intake Analysis

2. Follow the next few steps to fill in the first row: your US Recommended Daily Intakes (US RDI) for calories and macronutrients.

a. Look up the recommended calorie values for your age, gender, height, and activity type by using the **Estimated Energy Requirements (EER) for Men and Women 30 Years of Age chart**.

Note that the chart is set for men and women age 30. You need to add Kcal (Kilocalories = Calories) according to the formula just below the chart. Use the BMI value closest to your current weight. Record that information in the table below.

### What's Your Activity Level?

**Sedentary:** No exercise

**Low active:** 30 min of moderate activity, such as walking at 4 mph

**Active:** 60 minutes of moderate activity such as walking/jogging at 3-4 mph, or 30 minutes vigorous activity such as jogging at 5.5 mph

**Very active:** 45-60 minutes of vigorous activity

b. Use the **Acceptable Macronutrient Distribution Ranges** chart to determine the range, or percent of energy (Calories), that should come from total fats. According to the chart, what percent of calories should come from fat for children ages 4-18?

\_\_\_\_\_

Let's use the average of that range, 30%, or .30 of your total Calories. Use this information to compute the grams of total fat you could eat per day. Record your answer in the table below.

( \_\_\_\_\_ \* \_\_\_\_\_ .3 ) , 9 kcal/g fat = \_\_\_\_\_ grams

(# Calories you need \* % Calories from fat) , 9 kcal/g fat = # grams of fat

c. Use the third chart, **Recommended Intakes for Individuals, Macronutrients**, to look up the recommended macronutrient values for your age, gender, and activity type. Record that information in the table below.

3. Using the totals from your Personal Intake Logs, record the total amount of calories and total amount of each macronutrient you ate each day.

### My Recommended Daily Intakes

Height (meters): \_\_\_\_\_

Weight (kg): \_\_\_\_\_

	energy (Calories)	total fat (grams)	saturated fat (grams)	total carbohydrate (grams)	sugars (grams)	protein (grams)	water (Liters)
US DRI					X		
Day 1							

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrient Personal Intake Analysis

Day 2							
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrient Personal Intake Analysis

### ***Third: Analyze your food consumption and macronutrient intake***

If you need to review what the macronutrients are and why they are important, you can visit <http://www.cdc.gov/nutrition/everyone/basics/index.html> to read more about water, dietary fat, carbohydrates, and proteins.

1. Explain what Calories are and why you need them.

How did the number of Calories you ate each day compare to the recommended caloric intake for your age, height, gender, and body type?

2. What are carbohydrates?

Evaluate your intake of carbohydrates based upon the US DRI for your age.

3. The category of sugar includes both naturally occurring sugars (like those in fruit and lactose in milk) and added sugars. Visit the American Heart Association's webpage to learn more and explain what added sugars are:

[http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/GettingHealthy/NutritionCenter/HealthyDietGoals/Sugars-and-Carbohydrates\\_UCM\\_303296\\_Article.jsp#.T2DjAMrpOXU](http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/GettingHealthy/NutritionCenter/HealthyDietGoals/Sugars-and-Carbohydrates_UCM_303296_Article.jsp#.T2DjAMrpOXU)

- \* The American Heart Association recommends that adult females consume no more than 6 tsp (24 grams) of added sugar and that adult males consume no more than 10 tsp (36 grams) of added sugar. The USDA sets a daily limit of 40g of added sugars.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrient Personal Intake Analysis

4. Take a close look at your sugar intake. How much sugar do you consume? What are your sources of sugar? Keeping in mind that your total sugar values come from both added sugar and natural sugar, analyze your sugar consumption in light of the recommended limits.

5. Why must human beings consume proteins? Why are they important to our bodies?

Evaluate your intake of protein based upon the US DRI for your age. Do you need to make any changes? If so, what?

6. What are fats? Explain why fats are important, but why we should also limit our daily intake of them.

Evaluate your intake of total fats based upon the US DRI for your age.

7. Discuss the validity (representativeness) of your data collection. Is sampling (collecting information) only two days a fair and accurate way to gather data about your macronutrient consumption? Why or why not?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ KEY \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrient Personal Intake Analysis

### **Part 2: Calculate your Recommended Daily Intakes**

Use the **Acceptable Macronutrient Distribution Ranges** chart to determine the range, or percent of energy (Calories), that should come from total fats. According to the chart, what percent of Calories should come from fat for children ages 4-18? 25-35%.

### **Part 3: Analyze your food consumption and macronutrient intake**

1. Explain what Calories are and why you need them.

*A Calorie is a unit of energy supplied by food. Carbohydrates, fats, and proteins all provide Calories. Teacher note: A Calorie is also called a Dietary Calorie, a Food Calorie, or a kcal. A calorie (with the little c) is a unit of energy required to raise 1 g of water 1 degree Celsius.*

How did the number of Calories you ate each day compare to the recommended caloric intake for your age, height, gender, and body type?

*Student answers will vary.*

2. What are carbohydrates?

*Carbohydrates, our bodies' main source of energy, are molecules made up of sugars; your body breaks down carbohydrates to make glucose, a simple sugar that is used as energy by cells throughout the body. Complex carbohydrates are starch and dietary fiber. Simple carbohydrates include sugars that are found naturally in food as well as sugars that are added to food.*

Evaluate your intake of carbohydrates based upon the US DRI for your age.

*Student answers will vary.*

3. The category of sugar includes both naturally occurring sugars (like those in fruit and lactose in milk) and added sugars. Visit the American Heart Association's webpage to learn more and explain what added sugars are:

[http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/GettingHealthy/NutritionCenter/HealthyDietGoals/Sugar-s-and-Carbohydrates\\_UCM\\_303296\\_Article.jsp#.T2DjAMrpOXU](http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/GettingHealthy/NutritionCenter/HealthyDietGoals/Sugar-s-and-Carbohydrates_UCM_303296_Article.jsp#.T2DjAMrpOXU)

*According to the American Heart Association, "added sugars are sugars and syrups put in foods during preparation or processing, or added at the table." Common sources of added sugars include sugar, syrup, honey, sodas, candy, pies, cakes, cookies, fruit drinks, sweetened yogurts, ice cream, chocolate milk and many other products.*

- \* The American Heart Association recommends that adult females consume no more than 6 tsp (24 grams) of added sugar and that adult males consume no more than 10 tsp (36 grams) of added sugar. The USDA sets a daily limit of 40g of added sugars.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ KEY \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrient Personal Intake Analysis

4. Take a close look at your sugar intake. How much sugar do you consume? What are your sources of sugar? Keeping in mind that your total sugar values come from both added sugar and natural sugar, analyze your sugar consumption in light of the recommended limits.  
*Student answers will vary. Please note that added sugars are not separated out on food labels, so students will have to analyze the types of food they are eating (see partial list above) and whether or not they are likely to contain added sugar.*

5. Why must human beings consume proteins? Why are they important to our bodies?  
*Proteins are molecules made up of subunits called amino acids. The proteins in food we eat are broken down into amino acids that are then used by the cells in our bodies. Proteins are a part of every cell in our body and are important in almost all life processes.*

*Proteins come from many different sources. Complete protein sources are foods that have all 20 amino acids. Incomplete protein sources are foods that have only some of the amino acids.*

Evaluate your intake of protein based upon the US DRI for your age. Do you need to make any changes? If so, what?

*Student answers will vary.*

6. What are fats? Explain why fats are important, but why we should also limit our daily intake of them.

*Fats are a type of lipid. Fats are molecules that store energy. Organisms use carbohydrates for energy, but they can also break down fats, which store twice as much energy as proteins and carbohydrates, for energy. In our bodies, fats also store and transport vitamins, help keep skin healthy, protect organs, and make hormones.*

*Some fats, such as polyunsaturated and monounsaturated fat, are healthier than others, such as trans fats, saturated fats, and cholesterol.*

Evaluate your intake of total fats based upon the US DRI for your age.

*Student answers will vary.*

*\* Teacher note: Cholesterol is a separate line on nutrition labels and not included under "Total Fats."*

7. Discuss the validity (representativeness) of your data collection. Is sampling (collecting information) on only two days a fair and accurate way to gather data about your macronutrient consumption? Why or why not?  
*Student answers will vary based upon how well their 2- day sampling represents their longer-term diet. Accept all reasonable and well-supported answers.*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_



## Macronutrients Personal Intake Analysis—Day 2

Meal (M) or Snack (S)	Description	Serving size (if labeled)	Amount or # of servings	Energy (Calories)		Total fat (grams)		Saturated fat (grams)		Total carbohydrate (grams)		Sugars (grams)		Protein (grams)	
				per serving	Total	per serving	Total	per serving	Total	per serving	Total	per serving	Total	per serving	Total
<b>TOTALS</b>															

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrients Profile Comparisons

### Haitian and U.S. Student Nutritional Analysis

How do the diets of teenagers in the United States compare to those of Haitian teens? Your task in this activity is to analyze the macronutrient composition of the two different diets.

Your teacher will assign you a student profile. Read through all the background information and then enter the nutritional values in the data table below. Only the *totals* for each category will be compared.

	Energy (Calories)	Total fat (grams)	Saturated fat (grams)	Total carbohydrate (grams)	Protein (grams)
US DRI					
US teen: _____					
Haitian teen: _____					

On graph paper, create a bar graph comparing the nutritional values of the US teen to the Haitian teen.

**Use your completed bar graph and table to answer the following questions.**

1. Write a paragraph explaining the differences between the two sets of data on your graph. Make sure to discuss each nutritional category.
2. Which nutritional category shows the biggest difference in your two sets of nutrition data?
3. *Form a hypothesis:* Explain THREE possible reasons for this difference.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Macronutrients Profile Comparisons

Julia – United States						
Meal	Food Eaten	Calories	Carbohydrates (grams)	Total Fats (grams)	Saturated Fats (grams)	Protein (grams)
Breakfast	Cereal and Milk	238	38	5	2	10
Lunch	Sub: wheat roll, 3 slices of ham, 2 slices of cheese, mayo, lettuce Can of Soda Chips Carrots	1703	138	100	38	52
Dinner	Pasta with Tomato Sauce Meatballs Salad Applesauce	1336	153	57	17	55
Other	Candy Bar Granola Bar Energy Drink	492	81	18	8	7
<b>Totals</b>						

John – United States						
Meal	Food Eaten	Calories	Carbohydrates (grams)	Total Fats (grams)	Saturated Fats (grams)	Protein (grams)
Breakfast	None	-	-	-	-	-
Lunch	Milkshake Boxed pastry	1086	169	52	23	18
Dinner	Chicken nuggets French fries Soda	966	119	48	11	21
Other	Candy	210	26	11	7	3
<b>Totals</b>						

Danielle - Haiti						
Meal	Food Eaten	Calories	Carbohydrates (grams)	Total Fats (grams)	Saturated Fats (grams)	Protein (grams)
Breakfast	None	-	-	-	-	-
Lunch	Cornmeal Yuka root	865	189	3	-	7
Dinner	Cornmeal and fish	367	22	7	1	25
Other	None	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>						

Robert - Haiti						
Meal	Food Eaten	Calories	Carbohydrates (grams)	Total Fats (grams)	Saturated Fats (grams)	Protein (grams)
Breakfast	Pastry Milk	315	38	25	11	18
Lunch	Cassava chips Avocado	426	67	20	5	5
Dinner	Rice, beans, fish	740	62	8	2	42
Other	Peanut butter Bread	380	15	19	4	8
<b>Totals</b>						



## Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Estimated Energy Requirements (EER) for Men and Women 30 Years of Age<sup>a</sup>

Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, National Academies

Height (m [in])	PAL <sup>b</sup>	Weight for BMI <sup>c</sup> of 18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup> (kg [lb])	Weight for BMI of 24.99 kg/m <sup>2</sup> (kg [lb])	EER, Men <sup>d</sup> (kcal/day)		EER, Women <sup>d</sup> (kcal/day)	
				BMI of 18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	BMI of 24.99 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	BMI of 18.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	BMI of 24.99 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
1.50 (59)	Sedentary	41.6 (92)	56.2 (124)	1,848	2,080	1,625	1,762
	Low active			2,009	2,267	1,803	1,956
	Active			2,215	2,506	2,025	2,198
	Very active			2,554	2,898	2,291	2,489
1.65 (65)	Sedentary	50.4 (111)	68.0 (150)	2,068	2,349	1,816	1,982
	Low active			2,254	2,566	2,016	2,202
	Active			2,490	2,842	2,267	2,477
	Very active			2,880	3,296	2,567	2,807
1.80 (71)	Sedentary	59.9 (132)	81.0 (178)	2,301	2,635	2,015	2,211
	Low active			2,513	2,884	2,239	2,459
	Active			2,782	3,200	2,519	2,769
	Very active			3,225	3,720	2,855	3,141

<sup>a</sup> For each year below 30, add 7 kcal/day for women and 10 kcal/day for men. For each year above 30, subtract 7 kcal/day for women and 10 kcal/day for men.

<sup>b</sup> PAL = physical activity level.

<sup>c</sup> BMI = body mass index.

<sup>d</sup> Derived from the following regression equations based on doubly labeled water data:

Adult man:  $EER = 662 - 9.53 \times \text{age (y)} + PA \times (15.91 \times \text{wt [kg]} + 539.6 \times \text{ht [m]})$

Adult woman:  $EER = 354 - 6.91 \times \text{age (y)} + PA \times (9.36 \times \text{wt [kg]} + 726 \times \text{ht [m]})$

Where PA refers to coefficient for PAL

**PAL = total energy expenditure ÷ basal energy expenditure**

PA = 1.0 if PAL ≥ 1.0 < 1.4 (sedentary)

PA = 1.12 if PAL ≥ 1.4 < 1.6 (low active)

PA = 1.27 if PAL ≥ 1.6 < 1.9 (active)

PA = 1.45 if PAL ≥ 1.9 < 2.5 (very active)

## Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Acceptable Macronutrient Distribution Ranges

Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, National Academies

Macronutrient	Range (percent of energy)		
	Children, 1–3 y	Children, 4–18 y	Adults
Fat	30–40	25–35	20–35
<i>n</i> -6 polyunsaturated fatty acids <sup>a</sup> (linoleic acid)	5–10	5–10	5–10
<i>n</i> -3 polyunsaturated fatty acids <sup>a</sup> (α-linolenic acid)	0.6–1.2	0.6–1.2	0.6–1.2
Carbohydrate	45–65	45–65	45–65
Protein	5–20	10–30	10–35

<sup>a</sup> Approximately 10% of the total can come from longer-chain *n*-3 or *n*-6 fatty acids.

**SOURCE:** *Dietary Reference Intakes for Energy, Carbohydrate, Fiber, Fat, Fatty Acids, Cholesterol, Protein, and Amino Acids* (2002).

# Macronutrient Analysis



**Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Recommended Intakes for Individuals, Macronutrients**  
Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, National Academies

Life Stage Group	Total Water <sup>a</sup> (L/d)	Carbohydrate (g/d)	Total Fiber (g/d)	Fat (g/d)	Linoleic Acid (g/d)	$\alpha$ -Linolenic Acid (g/d)	Protein <sup>b</sup> (g/d)
<i>Infants</i>							
0–6 mo	0.7*	60*	ND	31*	4.4*	0.5*	9.1*
7–12 mo	0.8*	95*	ND	30*	4.6*	0.5*	11.0 <sup>c</sup>
<i>Children</i>							
1–3 y	1.3*	130	19*	ND	7*	0.7*	13
4–8 y	1.7*	130	25*	ND	10*	0.9*	19
<i>Males</i>							
9–13 y	2.4*	130	31*	ND	12*	1.2*	34
14–18 y	3.3*	130	38*	ND	16*	1.6*	52
19–30 y	3.7*	130	38*	ND	17*	1.6*	56
31–50 y	3.7*	130	38*	ND	17*	1.6*	56
51–70 y	3.7*	130	30*	ND	14*	1.6*	56
> 70 y	3.7*	130	30*	ND	14*	1.6*	56
<i>Females</i>							
9–13 y	2.1*	130	26*	ND	10*	1.0*	34
14–18 y	2.3*	130	26*	ND	11*	1.1*	46
19–30 y	2.7*	130	25*	ND	12*	1.1*	46
31–50 y	2.7*	130	25*	ND	12*	1.1*	46
51–70 y	2.7*	130	21*	ND	11*	1.1*	46
> 70 y	2.7*	130	21*	ND	11*	1.1*	46
<i>Pregnancy</i>							
14–18 y	3.0*	175	28*	ND	13*	1.4*	71
19–30 y	3.0*	175	28*	ND	13*	1.4*	71
31–50 y	3.0*	175	28*	ND	13*	1.4*	71
<i>Lactation</i>							
14–18 y	3.8*	210	29*	ND	13*	1.3*	71
19–30 y	3.8*	210	29*	ND	13*	1.3*	71
31–50 y	3.8*	210	29*	ND	13*	1.3*	71

**NOTE:** This table presents Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDAs) in bold type and Adequate Intakes (AIs) in regular type followed by an asterisk (\*). RDAs and AIs may both be used as goals for individual intake. RDAs are set to meet the needs of almost all (97 to 98 percent) individuals in a group. For healthy infants fed human milk, the AI is the mean intake. The AI for other life stage and gender groups is believed to cover the needs of all individuals in the group, but lack of data or uncertainty in the data prevent being able to specify with confidence the percentage of individuals covered by this intake.

<sup>a</sup>Total water includes all water contained in food, beverages, and drinking water.

<sup>b</sup>Based on 0.8 g/kg body weight for the reference body weight.

<sup>c</sup>Change from 13.5 in prepublication copy due to calculation error.

**Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Additional Macronutrient Recommendations**  
Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, National Academies

Macronutrient	Recommendation
Dietary cholesterol	As low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet
Trans fatty acids	As low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet
Saturated fatty acids	As low as possible while consuming a nutritionally adequate diet
Added sugars	Limit to no more than 25% of total energy

**SOURCE:** *Dietary Reference Intakes for Energy, Carbohydrate, Fiber, Fat, Fatty Acids, Cholesterol, Protein, and Amino Acids* (2002).

# Macronutrient Analysis



**Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs): Estimated Average Requirements for Groups**  
Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, National Academies

Life Stage Group	CHO (g/d)	Protein (g/d) <sup>a</sup>	Vit A (μg/d) <sup>b</sup>	Vit C (mg/d)	Vit E (mg/d) <sup>c</sup>	Thiamin (mg/d)	Ribo-flavin (mg/d)	Niacin (mg/d) <sup>d</sup>	Vit B <sub>6</sub> (mg/d)	Folate (μg/d) <sup>e</sup>	Vit B <sub>12</sub> (μg/d)	Copper (μg/d)	Iodine (μg/d)	Iron (mg/d)	Magnesium (mg/d)	Molybdenum (μg/d)	Phosphorus (mg/d)	Selenium (μg/d)	Zinc (mg/d)	
Infants																				
7–12 mo		9*												6.9						2.5
Children																				
1–3 y	100	11	210	13	5	0.4	0.4	5	0.4	120	0.7	260	65	3.0	65	13	380	17	2.5	
4–8 y	100	15	275	22	6	0.5	0.5	6	0.5	160	1.0	340	65	4.1	110	17	405	23	4.0	
Males																				
9–13 y	100	27	445	39	9	0.7	0.8	9	0.8	250	1.5	540	73	5.9	200	26	1,055	35	7.0	
14–18 y	100	44	630	63	12	1.0	1.1	12	1.1	330	2.0	685	95	7.7	340	33	1,055	45	8.5	
19–30 y	100	46	625	75	12	1.0	1.1	12	1.1	320	2.0	700	95	6	330	34	580	45	9.4	
31–50 y	100	46	625	75	12	1.0	1.1	12	1.1	320	2.0	700	95	6	330	34	580	45	9.4	
51–70 y	100	46	625	75	12	1.0	1.1	12	1.4	320	2.0	700	95	6	330	34	580	45	9.4	
> 70 y	100	46	625	75	12	1.0	1.1	12	1.4	320	2.0	700	95	6	330	34	580	45	9.4	
Females																				
9–13 y	100	28	420	39	9	0.7	0.8	9	0.8	250	1.5	540	73	5.7	200	26	1,055	35	7.0	
14–18 y	100	38	485	56	12	0.9	0.9	11	1.0	330	2.0	685	95	7.9	300	33	1,055	45	7.3	
19–30 y	100	38	500	60	12	0.9	0.9	11	1.1	320	2.0	700	95	8.1	255	34	580	45	6.8	
31–50 y	100	38	500	60	12	0.9	0.9	11	1.1	320	2.0	700	95	8.1	265	34	580	45	6.8	
51–70 y	100	38	500	60	12	0.9	0.9	11	1.3	320	2.0	700	95	5	265	34	580	45	6.8	
> 70 y	100	38	500	60	12	0.9	0.9	11	1.3	320	2.0	700	95	5	265	34	580	45	6.8	
Pregnancy																				
14–18 y	135	50	530	66	12	1.2	1.2	14	1.6	520	2.2	785	160	23	335	40	1,055	49	10.5	
19–30 y	135	50	550	70	12	1.2	1.2	14	1.6	520	2.2	800	160	22	290	40	580	49	9.5	
31–50 y	135	50	550	70	12	1.2	1.2	14	1.6	520	2.2	800	160	22	300	40	580	49	9.5	
Lactation																				
14–18 y	160	60	885	96	16	1.2	1.3	13	1.7	450	2.4	985	209	7	300	35	1,055	59	10.9	
19–30 y	160	60	900	100	16	1.2	1.3	13	1.7	450	2.4	1,000	209	6.5	255	36	580	59	10.4	
31–50 y	160	60	900	100	16	1.2	1.3	13	1.7	450	2.4	1,000	209	6.5	265	36	580	59	10.4	

NOTE: This table presents Estimated Average Requirements (EARs), which serve two purposes: for assessing adequacy of population intakes, and as the basis for calculating Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDAs) for individuals for those nutrients. EARs have not been established for vitamin D, vitamin K, pantothenic acid, biotin, choline, calcium, chromium, fluoride, manganese, or other nutrients not yet evaluated via the DRI process.

<sup>a</sup>For individual at reference weight (Table 1-1). \*Indicates change from prepublication copy due to calculation error.

<sup>b</sup>As retinol activity equivalents (RAEs). 1 RAE = 1 μg retinol, 12 μg β-carotene, 24 μg α-carotene, or 24 μg β-cryptoxanthin. The RAE for dietary provitamin A carotenoids is two-fold greater than retinol equivalents (RE), whereas the RAE for preformed vitamin A is the same as RE.

<sup>c</sup>As α-tocopherol. α-Tocopherol includes RRR-α-tocopherol, the only form of α-tocopherol that occurs naturally in foods, and the 2R-stereoisomeric forms of α-tocopherol (RRR-, RSR-, RRS-, and RSS-α-tocopherol) that occur in fortified foods and supplements. It does not include the 2S-stereoisomeric forms of α-tocopherol (SRR-, SSR-, SRS-, and SSS-α-tocopherol), also found in fortified foods and supplements.

<sup>d</sup>As niacin equivalents (NE). 1 mg of niacin = 60 mg of tryptophan.

<sup>e</sup>As dietary folate equivalents (DFE). 1 DFE = 1 μg food folate = 0.6 μg of folic acid from fortified food or as a supplement consumed with food = 0.5 μg of a supplement taken on an empty stomach.

SOURCES: *Dietary Reference Intakes for Calcium, Phosphorus, Magnesium, Vitamin D, and Fluoride* (1997); *Dietary Reference Intakes for Thiamin, Riboflavin, Niacin, Vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, Folate, Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, Pantothenic Acid, Biotin, and Choline* (1998); *Dietary Reference Intakes for Vitamin C, Vitamin E, Selenium, and Carotenoids* (2000); *Dietary Reference Intakes for Vitamin A, Vitamin K, Arsenic, Boron, Chromium, Copper, Iodine, Iron, Manganese, Molybdenum, Nickel, Silicon, Vanadium, and Zinc* (2001), and *Dietary Reference Intakes for Energy, Carbohydrate, Fiber, Fat, Fatty Acids, Cholesterol, Protein, and Amino Acids* (2002). These reports may be accessed via [www.nap.edu](http://www.nap.edu).

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