### **Calcium**

#### **Calcium**

- Mineral that makes up bones and keeps them strong
- 99% of calcium in the body is stored in bones and teeth
- Remaining 1% in blood and soft tissues
  - Essential for muscle contractions
  - Blood clotting
  - Nerve transmissions

## **Insufficient Calcium Intake**

- Osteoporosis
- Dental deterioration

## Osteoporosis

- Major public health threat
- NOT part of the natural aging process
- 44 million Americans with osteoporosis or low bone mass
- 55% of Americans aged 50+

## **Consequences of Osteoporosis**

- Pain
- Fractures
- Falls
- "Residential Care"

## **Dietary Sources of Calcium**

## Dairy products

- Fish and seafood
- Vegetables
- Beans

### Calcium RDA

Infants	Birth – 5 months	400 mg
	5 months – 1 year	600 mg
Children	1 – 10 years	800 mg
Males	11 – 24 years	1,200
	25 – 50 years	800 mg
	51+	800 mg
Females	11 - 24 years	1,200 mg
	15 – 50	800
	51+	800
	Pregnant/Nursing	1,200

# Optimal Daily Intake of Calcium

Infants	Birth – 6 months	400 mg
	6 months – 1 year	600 mg
Children	1 – 5 years	800 mg
	6 – 10 years	800 – 1,200 mg
Adolescents	11 – 24 years	1,200 – 1,500 mg
Men	25 – 50 years	1,000 mg
	65+	1,500 mg
Women	25 – 50 years	1,000 mg
	50+ (postmenopausal) on estrogen	1,000 mg
	Not on estrogen	1,500 mg
	65+	1,500 mg
	Pregnant/Nursing	1,200 – 1,500 mg

## **Calcium Absorption**

- Vitamin D
- Lactose

#### **Calcium Retention**

- Age
- Estrogen
- Caffeine
- Cigarette smoking
- Alcohol

#### **Bone Mass**

- Peak bone mass is achieved during adolescence.
- Bone mass begins to deteriorate after adolescence

## Soda!

"Children in the United States are drinking less milk because they are drinking more of other beverages such as soft drinks and fruit drinks. This decline in milk consumption may have serious long-term, detrimental effects on the bone health of today's youth."

Rachel K. Johnson, University of Vermont Journal of the American Dietetic Association, June 2002

## Soda consumption

- Soda consumption increased by 41% between 1990 and 1995
- Milk consumption decreased 25 30 % between 1978 and 1995.

#### More on Soda

- 56% of 8 year olds drink soft drinks daily
- One third of teenage boys drink at least 3 cans of soda per day
- Children who drink soda consume at least 200 more calories per day than children who don't drink soda

#### **Annual Soft Drink Consumption in US**

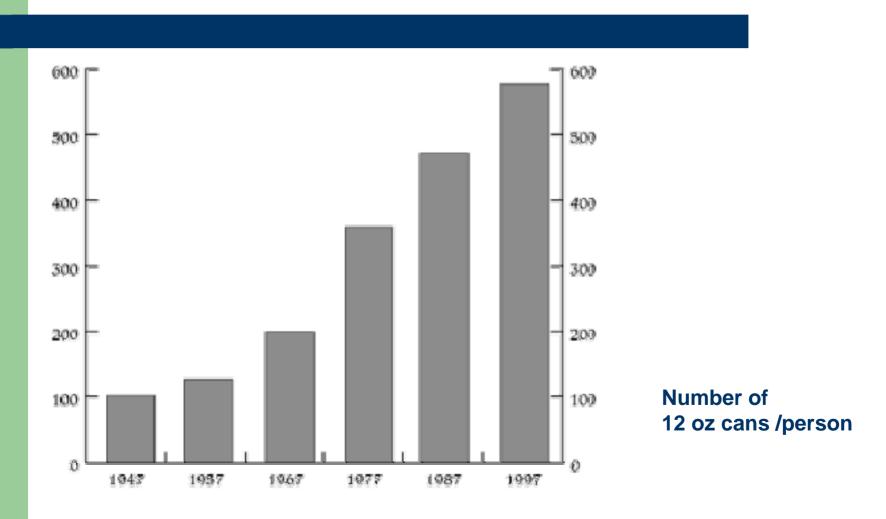
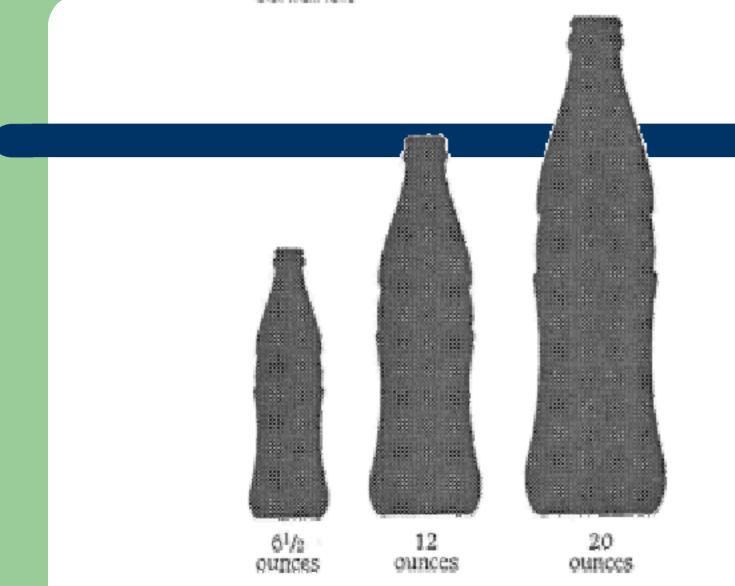


Figure 2. Growing size of single-serving containers



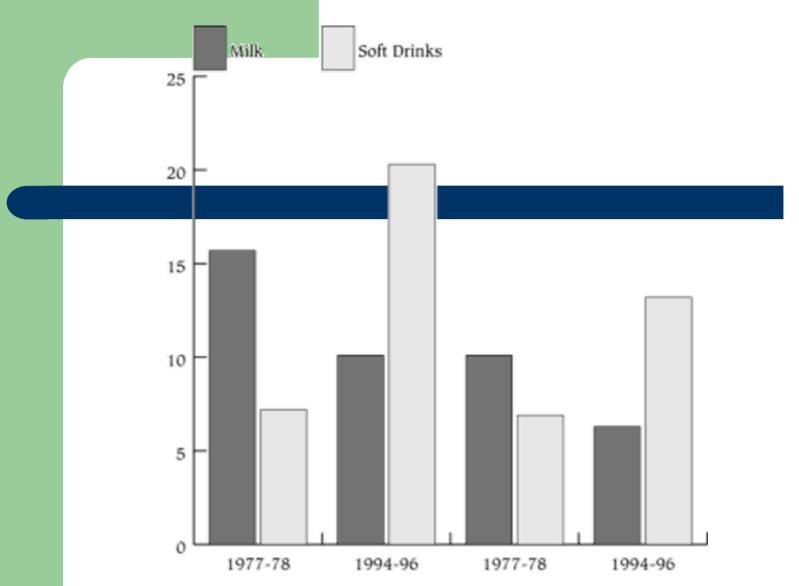
## **Nutritional Impact of Soft Drinks**

#### Sugar intake

- Carbonated drinks are the single biggest source of refined sugars in the American diet
- Soda provides the average American with 7 teaspoons of sugar per day out of a total of 20
- Teenage boys get 44% of their 34 teaspoons of sugar per day from soda
- Teenage girls get 40% of their 24 teaspoons of sugar from soda

## Consequences

- 90% of teenage girls and 70% of teenage boys do not meet their daily calcium requirements
- Soda replaces valuable foods in the diet
- Obesity
- Bone fractures



Teens' consumption of milk and soft drinks per day (ounces)



## School Nutrition Professional

An Independent National Resource for School Food Service Professionals

Volume 19, Number 7

April 10, 2002

#### Oakland School Board Bans All Soda, Candy Sales

In a bold and apparently unprecedented step, the Oakland, Calif., school board has

going to be in the position of trendsetting," said Eugenia Lau, menu planning and

#### Soda Sold in Largest Calif. School Districts

Soda contracts are so pervasive in

## **Sodium**

#### What is salt?

- Salt is sodium chloride.
- It is composed of two elements:
  - Sodium
  - Chloride
- 1 teaspoon of salt = 2,300 mg sodium

#### Role of Sodium in the Diet

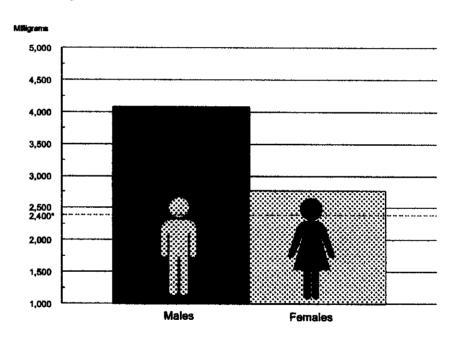
- Regulation of body fluids
- Blood pressure regulation

#### **Recommended Sodium Intake**

• 2,400 milligrams

## U.S. Sodium Intake

Figure 1. Average dietary sodium intake, by sex, adults 19 years and over



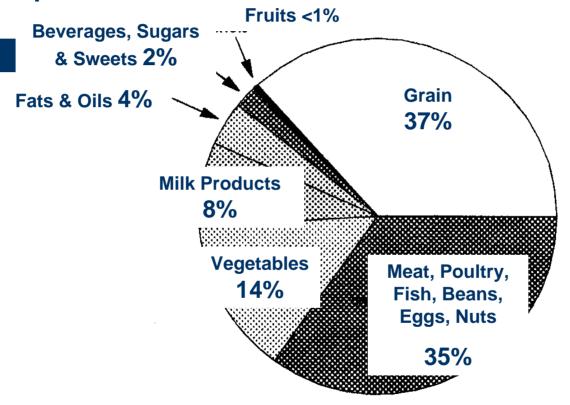
<sup>\*</sup> Recommended maximum level.

Source: USDA, Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals, 1994, 1-Day Data.

## Salt Use by Americans

- Most adults consume more sodium than recommended
- ~75% of sodium is added during processing
- ~20% added during cooking or at the table
- Remaining 5% is from water and medications

## Food Group Contributions to Sodium Intake, percent of total



Source: USDA, Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals, 1994, 1-Day Data.

# Dietary Salt, Sodium Intake & High Blood Pressure

- Diets with more than 6 grams of salt / day (2,400 mg sodium) are associated with elevated blood pressure
- Increased blood pressure leads to
  - Hypertension
  - Heart disease
  - Stroke
  - Kidney disease

### **Hidden Salt vs Obvious Salt**

## Reducing Salt Intake

- Add only small amounts of salt in cooking
- Use no salt or small amounts at the table
- Use herbs and spices to flavor foods
- Go easy on condiments such as soy sauce, ketchup, mustard, pickles, olives
- Snack on fruits and vegetables
- Replace highly salted convenience foods with low-sodium products