

# Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Americans' Dietary Quality by Food Source and Demographics: 1977-2018

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB, TB, SOR,)  
EIB

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information  
USDA [ ] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

Agency Contact: Kelly B. Maguire <kelly.b.maguire@usda.gov>

Subject of Review: Food prepared away from home (FAFH)—whether eaten in restaurants, fast food and other locations, or a take-out or delivery meal eaten at home—is now an important part of the diets of U.S. consumers. The share of total food expenditure spent on FAFH rose from 25.9 percent in 1970 to 54.8 percent in 2019. Previous ERS research has suggested that FAFH has been considered as a contributor to poor diet. Over time, however consumers buy more pre-prepared items in grocery stores such that the differences between FAFH and food at home (FAH) may have diminished; therefore, a better understanding of how consumers' diets at home and away from home have evolved over time and how these changes compare to dietary guidance motivates this study. We examine data from nationally representative food consumption surveys conducted by the Federal agencies with consistent data on food sources— FAH, FAFH, restaurants with waiter service, fast food establishments, school, and other FAFH. We analyze the diets of U.S. consumers in terms of intake amount, distribution, and density (intake amount from foods that contain 1,000 calories) by food source for 12 nutrients and food components and 35 food equivalents groups among individuals age 2 and above in total and by selected socio-income and demographic subgroups—age, gender, race and ethnicity, household income, and educational achievement among adults. The density measures are compared to the recommendations put forth in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans to provide the most comprehensive assessment of how individuals' diets compare to the 2020-25 dietary guidance, how diets have evolved between 1977 and 2018, and the differences in the dietary quality of foods by food source and population subgroups.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [ ] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers  
[ ] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 10/14/2021 Completed: 02/25/2022 Withdrawn: --/--/----

Number of Reviewers: [ ] 3 or fewer [x] 4 to 10 [ ] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [ ] Designated Outside Organization  
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [ ] Yes [X] No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [ ] Yes [X] No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [ ] Yes [X] No