## NUTRITION IN FOCUS



## Sodium Content of Foods

Consuming no more than 2,400 milligrams ( mg ) of sodium per day means eating mostly fresh foods with very few processed, restaurant, and fast foods.

## SAMPLE MENU

A balanced diet of mostly fresh foods, as shown below, has about $1,000 \mathrm{mg}$ of sodium.
This diet does not include any added salt.

| Foods | Serving <br> Size | Avg. mg <br> Sodium Per <br> Serving | Servings <br> Per Day | Total <br> Sodium |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Milk | 1 cup | 110 mg | 2 | 220 mg |
| Fresh meat, poultry, or fish | 3 oz. | 60 mg | 2 | 120 mg |
| Fresh vegetables | $1 / 2 \mathrm{cup}$ | 20 mg | 5 | 100 mg |
| Fruit | $1 / 2 \mathrm{cup}$ | 2 mg | 3 | 6 mg |
| Bread | 1 slice | 150 mg | 3 | 450 mg |
| Grain—oats, rice, pasta, etc. | $1 / 2$ cup | 4 mg | 5 | 20 mg |
| (no salt added) | 1 tsp. | 30 mg | 3 | 90 mg |
| Margarine, butter, or mayonnaise |  |  |  |  |

Total Sodium Per Day: 1,006 mg

## SODIUM COUNTER FOR PROCESSED, RESTAURANT, AND FAST FOODS

| Bread, Cereals |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | mg sodium |
| biscuit (1 biscuit, 64 grams) | 600 |
| pancakes (3, 4 inches, 114 grams) | 700 |
| dry cereal (1 cup, 28 grams) | 200 |
| spoon-sized shredded wheat (1 cup, 49 grams) | 0 |
| instant hot cereal, plain (1 pkg., 43 grams) | 200 |
| bagel (1 medium plain bagel, 4 inches, 105 grams) | 561 |
| corn tortilla ( 1,6 inches, 24 grams) | 40 |
| flour tortilla (1, 6 inches, 30 grams) | 200 |
| salted crackers ( $5,15 \mathrm{grams}$ ) | 180 |


mg sodium
Healthy Choice Chicken Teriyaki 500
Stouffer's French Bread Pepperoni 930
Pizza (1 piece)
frozen chicken pot pie ( 234 grams) 890
canned chili with beans ( 1 cup) 1,340
boxed macaroni and cheese (1 cup) 600

## Beverages


mg sodium
V8 juice (8 ounces) 420
buttermilk (1 cup) 257
soda (12 ounces) 25
diet soda with aspartame ( 12 ounces) 21
club soda (12 ounces) 75
mineral water (12 ounces) 3
sports drinks (20 ounces) 270

## Convenience Foods


mg sodium
stuffing mix, prepared ( $1 / 2$ cup) 525
flavored rice mixes ( 1 cup) $\quad 1,300$
Lunchables with ham and cheese 850
chicken noodle soup, canned 1,780
(1 cup)
canned corn ( $1 / 2$ cup) 360
Chicken Top Ramen (1 pkg.) 1,820
baking soda (1 tsp.) 1,200
baking powder (1 tsp.) 480
Cup Noodles (one 3-ounce 1,100
container)

| Cheese |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | mg sodium |
| American (1 slice) | 270 |
| mozzarella (1 ounce) | 190 |
| cheddar (1 ounce) | 180 |
| cottage cheese ( $1 / 2$ cup) | 440 |
| cream cheese ( 2 Tbsp .) | 125 |
| Cotija (1 ounce) | 435 |
| parmesan (2 Tbsp.) | 255 |
| Desserts and Snack Foods |  |
|  | mg sodium |
| cake (1 slice, 64 grams) | 215 |
| cookies (3 small) | 125 |
| glazed donut (1) | 200 |
| pie ( $1 / 8$ of pie) | 400 |
| vanilla ice cream ( $1 / 2$ cup) | 60 |
| chips (1 ounce) | 180 |
| pretzels (1 ounce) | 500 |
| salted nuts (1 ounce) | 115 |
| rice cake (1) | 15 |
| instant pudding (1/2 cup) | 415 |


| Restaurant and Fast Foods | 2,340 |
| :--- | ---: |
| orange chicken dinner with <br> chow mein (2 entrées) | 1,275 |
| cheese pizza (1⁄4 of 12 inches) | 650 |
| hamburger (1) | 1,120 |
| 2 soft beef tacos | 920 |
| 6-inch turkey sub sandwich |  |

- Read the Nutrition Facts on a food label for mg of sodium.
- Your taste buds will adapt to a lower sodium intake in 3 to 4 weeks.
- Remember, your sodium allowance is $2,400 \mathrm{mg}$ per day.

