

AVAILABILITY OF DATA

Betty P. Perloff
Consumer and Food Economics Institute
HNC-SEA-USDA

Agriculture Handbook No. 8, Composition of Foods...Raw, Processed, Prepared, is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's standard reference on food composition and was last completely revised in 1963. A current revision, progressing by food group, is underway; as a group is completed, the data are released as a section of the handbook. The following six sections have been released to date:

8-1 Dairy and Egg Products	8-4 Fats and Oils
8-2 Spices and Herbs	8-5 Poultry Products
8-3 Baby Foods	8-6 Soups, Sauces and Gravies

Agriculture Handbook No. 456, published in 1975, contains basically the same data that were published in the last complete revision of Handbook No. 8, except that data have been converted to common units. Home and Garden Bulletin No. 72., a small bulletin with data presented in common household measures, was published in 1977 as a consumer service of USDA. Copies of the above publications are available through the Government Printing Office.

Several USDA computerized nutrient data bases are available to the public through the National Technical Information Service. These data bases are described below.

Data Set 456-3, Release 2, contains food items from the 1963 edition of Handbook No. 8 and Handbook No. 456 with data presented on the 100 gram edible portion basis. Data were revised in 1977 to reflect current enrichment practices in the baking industry, and in 1980 the values were updated with data from the first five sections of the revised Handbook No. 8.

Data Set 456-2 contains weights of household measures for most of the food items on Data Set 456-3.

Data Set 456, Release 2, contains the data from 456-3 after conversion to weights of household measures.

Data Set 72-1 contains food items from Home and Garden Bulletin No. 72. Data are presented on the household measures basis.

USDA Nutrient Data Base for Standard Reference, Release 1, consists of the data from the first five sections of revised Handbook No. 8 supplemented by the data from 456-3. The format corresponds to the revised handbook, and data from new sections will be added as they are published. Updated versions of this data base will be released periodically and will be identified by release number and date.

USDA Nutrient Data Base for Individual Intake Surveys, Release 1, is the data base developed to analyze data from the 1977-78 USDA Nationwide Food Consumption Survey of Individuals.

Nutrients included on each file are summarized in Table 1. For details on how to obtain the data bases, call Mr. Bruce Gray (301) 436-8507.

TABLE 1. USDA NUTRIENT DATA BASES

Data Base	456-3	456-2	456	72-1	Standard Reference		Individual Survey
Number of Items	3,147	6,943	6,943	730	>3,500		>4,500
Units of Measure	100 gm		Household Measures	Household Measures	Data From 456 100 gm	Data from Rev. 8 100 gm and House Meas.	100 gm
Weights of Household Measures		x		x			
Proximate:							
Water.....	x		x	x	x	x	
Energy.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Protein.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Total Lipid.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Carbohydrate.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Crude Fiber.....	x		x		x	x	
Ash.....	x		x		x	x	
Minerals:							
Calcium.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Iron.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Magnesium.....						x	x
Phosphorus.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Potassium.....	x		x	x	x	x	
Sodium.....	x		x		x	x	
Zinc.....						x	
Vitamins:							
Ascorbic Acid.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Thiamin.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Riboflavin.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Niacin.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Pantothenic Acid..						x	
Vitamin B-6.....						x	x
Folacin.....						x	
Vitamin B-12.....						x	x
Vitamin A.....	x		x	x	x	x	x
Lipids:							
Total Sat. F.A. ..	x		x	x	x	x	
Total Mono. F.A. .						x	
Total Poly. F.A. .						x	
Oleic Acid.....	x		x	x	x	x	
Linoleic Acid.....	x		x	x	x	x	
Other Fatty Acids.						x	
Cholesterol.....	x		x		x	x	
Amino Acids.....						x	