Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program

Responsible Food Marketing to Kids

In January 2015, national experts recommended comprehensive guidelines for more responsible food marketing to children to help close industry loopholes and better protect children's health.

Marketing unhealthy foods and drinks to kids contributes to a poor diet and obesity



\$280 million healthy food marketing to kids \$1.70 billion unhealthy food marketing to kids

2009

Companies' Expanded Reach

Companies target children across an evolving marketing landscape that is hard for parents to monitor

	WEBSITES	
More	than	

SOCIAL MEDIA & MOBILE

Dollars spent to market foods and drinks to kids via

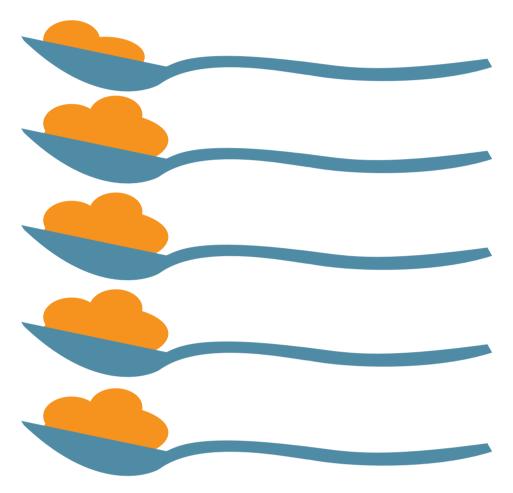


SCHOOLS

Companies spent **\$149** million in 2009 to market soda, other drinks, and food in schools.

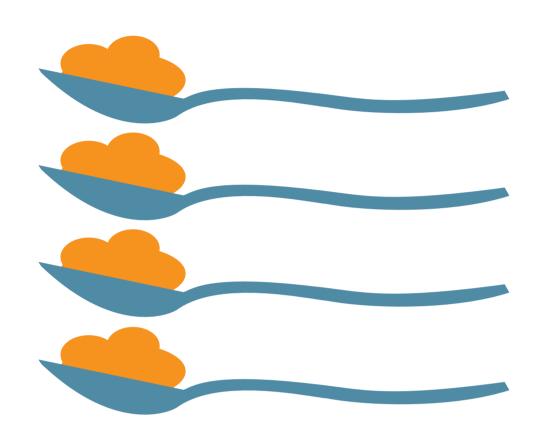
On average, drinks marketed to kids had 16+ grams of added sugar per serving.



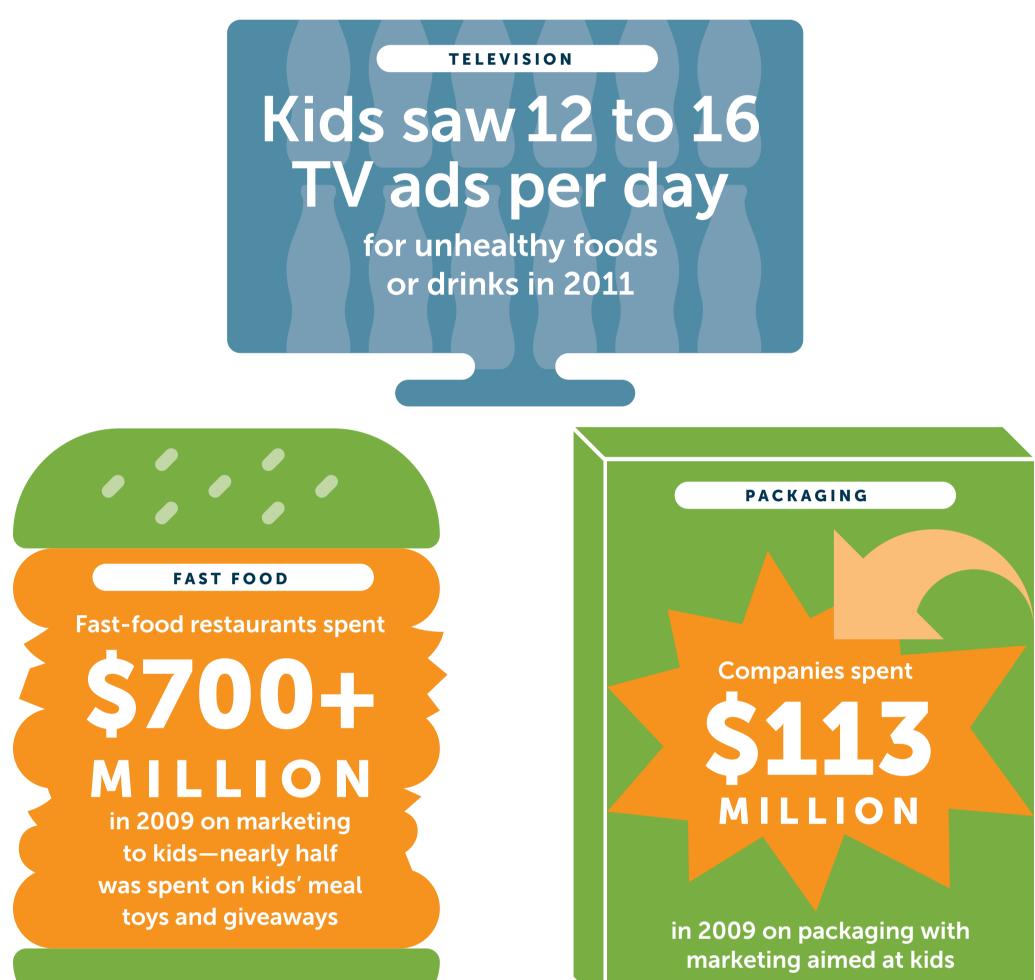


4.65 tsp per serving

16.3 grams for age 11 and under

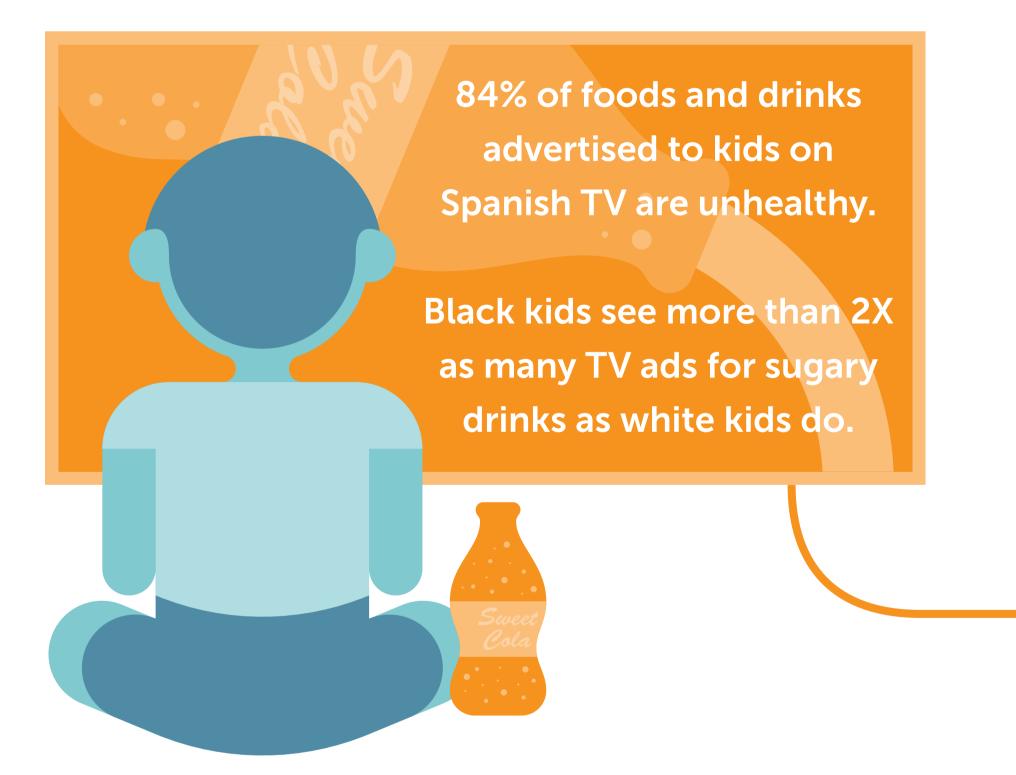


4 tsp per serving

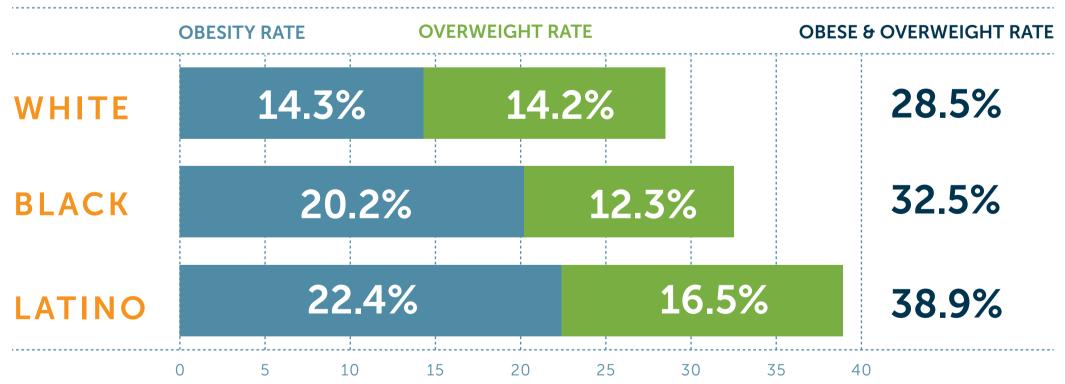


Racial Disparities Companies target kids at highest risk for obesity

Black and Latino kids are more likely to see marketing for unhealthy fare, fast-food ads, and ads promoting snacks instead of meals.



U.S. youths ages 2-19, 2011-12



Close the Loopholes

Industry's voluntary standards and practices don't go far enough. Responsible guidelines would close major loopholes that currently leave kids unprotected.



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