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

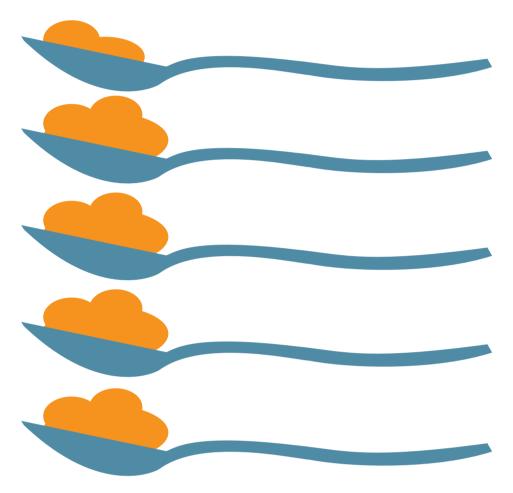


SCHOOLS

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

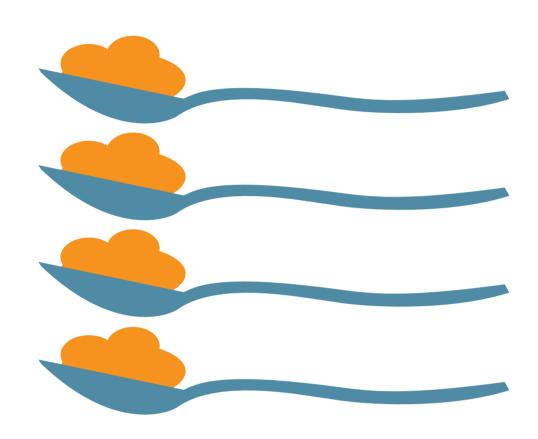
### On average, drinks marketed to kids had 16+ grams of added sugar per serving.



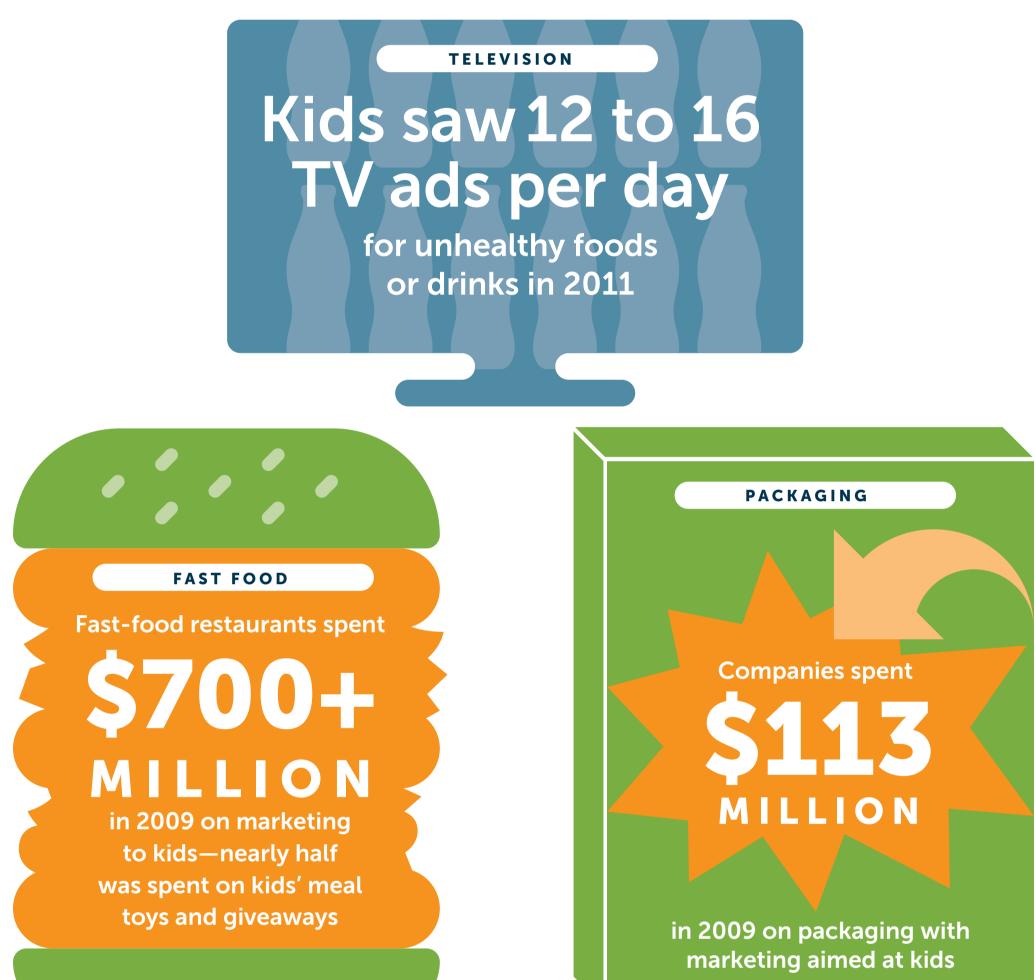


4.65 tsp per serving

16.3 grams for age 11 and under

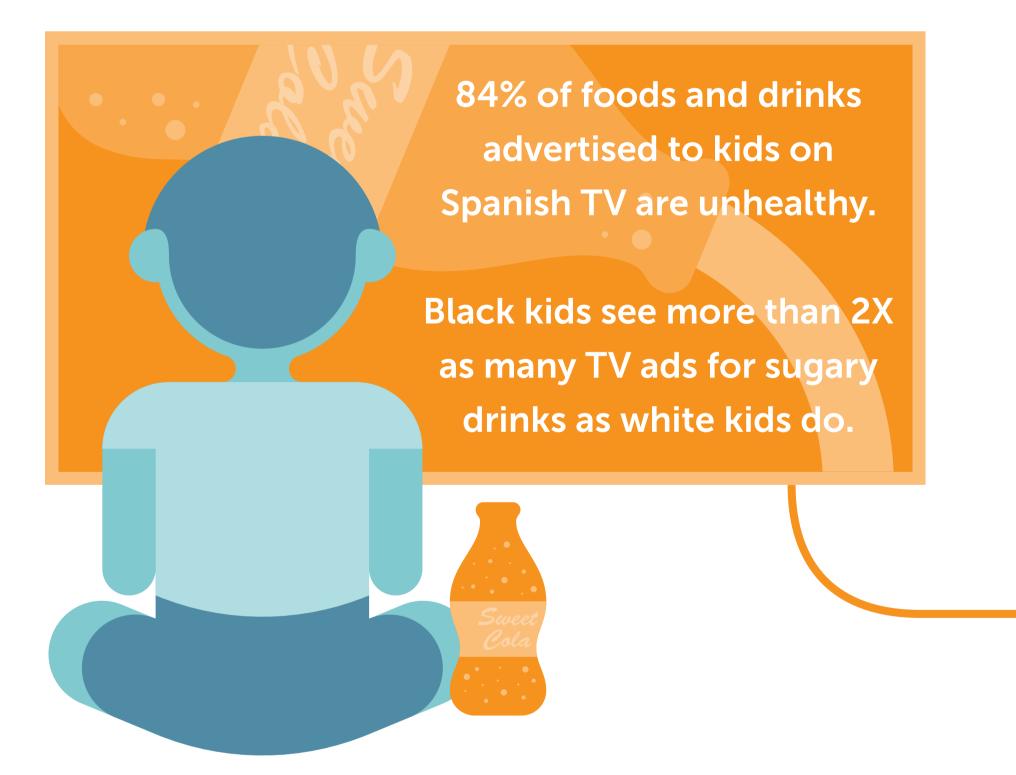


4 tsp per serving

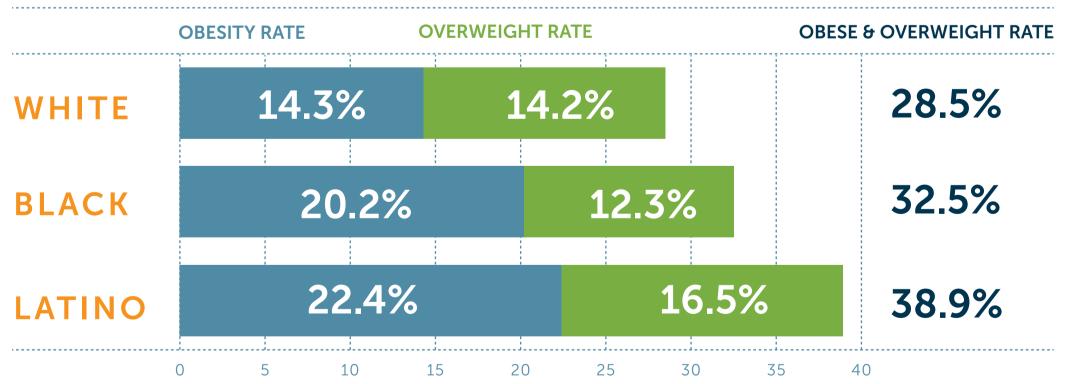


## **Racial Disparities** Companies target kids at highest risk for obesity

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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