

# **Availability and Consumption of Competitive Foods in U.S. Schools: Findings from SNDA-III**

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# Competitive Foods: Definition

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**Foods and beverages available or sold in schools *excluding* items sold as part of reimbursable meals in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program**

# USDA Has Limited Authority Over Competitive Foods

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- **Federal regulations limit sale of Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value (FMNV) *in food service areas during meal times***
  - ◆ **< 5% RDA**
  - ◆ **Soft drinks, water ices, gum, some candy**
- **States and individual school districts can impose additional restrictions**

# Key Research Questions

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- **How available were competitive foods in the 2004-2005 school year?**
- **What proportion of children consumed competitive foods in a day? How did this vary by school type and school meal participation?**
- **What types of competitive foods were most commonly consumed?**
- **How did competitive foods contribute to children's energy intakes?**

# Data Sources

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- **On-site observations**
- **Surveys of food service managers and principals**
- **Single 24-hour dietary recalls**