

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Geographic Differences in the Relative Prices of Healthy Foods

Type of Report
(ERR, EIB, EB)

EIB

Influential Scientific Information

Agency:

Economic Research Service
USDA

Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

Agency Contact:

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Subject of Review:

Although healthy foods can be affordable, if less healthy foods are cheaper, there is an economic incentive for individuals to consume a less healthful diet. Using prices from the Quarterly Food-at-Home Price Database, this study compares the price of packaged whole-grain products to their refined-grain counterparts; dark green vegetables to starchy vegetables; orange vegetables to starchy vegetables; whole fruit to commercially prepared sweet snacks; low-fat milk to whole and 2% milk; low-fat milk to carbonated nonalcoholic beverages; bottled water to carbonated nonalcoholic beverages; and fruit juice to noncarbonated nonalcoholic caloric beverages (fruit drinks). Market-level relative prices of the healthy food groups for 2006 as well as the quarterly and annual average relative prices within 9 census divisions between 1998 and 2006 are calculated.

Purpose of Review:

The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review:

Panel Review

Individual Reviewers

Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.):

Start:

12/03/10

End:

02/03/11

Completed:

02/03/11

Number of Reviewers:

3 or
fewer

4 to 10

More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review:

Economists

Reviewers selected by:

Agency

Designated Outside
Organization

Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment?

Yes

No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments?

Yes

No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel?

Yes

No

