The National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative (NSSRI) is a partnership of about 100 local, state and national health organizations convened by the New York City Health Department. The Health Department launched the initial phase of this effort, the National Salt Reduction Initiative (NSRI), in 2009 and set targets for reduced sodium levels in packaged and restaurant foods. The partnership joined together to encourage major food companies to make voluntary commitments to specific food category targets for sodium reduction and monitored sodium levels to track this progress. Between 2009 and 2015, there was a 6.8 percent reduction in sodium levels in the food supply, demonstrating the feasibility of this model.

In 2018, NSRI became The National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative (NSSRI), and will set targets for and monitor sugar levels in packaged foods and beverages that contribute the majority of added sugar to the diet. Once again, the partnership is encouraging food companies to make voluntary commitments to these targets.

Sugar has become widespread in the national food supply; currently, 68 percent of packaged foods and beverages purchased in the U.S. contain caloric sweeteners. Research shows that intake of added sugars is associated with increased risk of excess weight, type 2 diabetes, hypertension, stroke, heart disease and cavities.

Reducing the amount of salt and sugar consumed requires action by individuals, governments and the private sector. Individuals can monitor and reduce their intake. Health organizations, including government agencies, can provide leadership and raise awareness of the health benefits of lowering salt and sugar intake. The private sector can reduce the amount of salt and sugar in processed foods by reformulating its products and expanding the range of lower sugar items for consumers to choose from. There is an opportunity to work together through a transparent public process to reduce the amount of salt and sugar in the food supply and the diet, preventing diet-related chronic disease and improving population health.

National Salt and Sugar Reduction Initiative Partnership

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
- American College of Epidemiology
- American Cancer Society Inc.
- American Heart Association
- American Medical Association
- American Public Health Association
- Arizona Department of Health Services
- Association of State Public Health Nutritionists
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
- Big Cities Health Coalition
- Boston Public Health Commission
- Brazos County Health Department, Texas
- Broome County Health Department, New York
- California Conference of Local Health Officers
- California Department of Public Health
- Cambridge Public Health Department
- Center for Science in the Public Interest
- Chicago Department of Public Health
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Connecticut Department of Public Health
- Consumers Union/Consumer Reports
- Cook County Department of Public Health, Illinois
- Corpus Christi - Nueces County Public Health District, Texas
- Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
- County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, California
- County of Santa Clara Public Health Department, California
- Delaware Department of Health and Social Services
- District of Columbia Department of Health
- Foodicine Health

Questions? Email sugar@health.nyc.gov
Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic
Hawaii State Department of Health
Healthy Food America
Houston Health Department
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program
Illinois Department of Public Health
Indiana State Department of Health
InterAmerican Heart Foundation
International Network for Epidemiology in Policy
Kaiser Permanente
Kentucky Department for Public Health
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, California
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Maricopa County Department of Public Health, Arizona
Marion County Public Health Department, Indiana
Maryland Department of Health
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Minneapolis Health Department
Minnesota Department of Health
Mississippi State Department of Health
Mississippi Task Force on Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
Missouri Council for Activity and Nutrition
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
National Kidney Foundation
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National WIC Association
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health
New Jersey Department of Health
New Mexico Department of Health
New York Academy of Medicine
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
New York State Chapter, American College of Cardiology
New York State Department of Health
North Dakota Department of Health
Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium
Northwest Kidney Centers
Ohio Department of Health
Oklahoma City-County Health Department, Oklahoma
Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division
Pennsylvania Department of Health
Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Public Health Institute
Public Health Law Center at Mitchell Hamline School of Law
Quinnipiac Valley Health District, Connecticut
Resnick Program for Food Law and Policy at UCLA
Rhode Island Department of Health
Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity at UConn
Salt Lake County Health Department, Utah
Schenectady County Public Health Services, New York
Seattle and King County Public Health Department, Washington
Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency - Public Health, California
Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior
Society for the Analysis of African-American Public Health Issues
South Carolina Institute of Medicine & Public Health
South Dakota Department of Health
Southern Nevada Health District
St. Louis City Department of Health
Steuben County Public Health, New York
Summit County Health Department, Utah
Tarrant County Public Health, Texas
Texas Medical Association
Texas Association of City and County Health Officials
Texas Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Partnership
The Food Trust
Washington State Department of Health
Wisconsin Heart Disease and Stroke Alliance
World Hypertension League

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