The Roy Morgan Research Centre Pty. Ltd.

Australia's Nation-wide Research Organisation

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HONG KONG Roy Morgan Marketing Research (S.E. Asia) Limited 5A Carfield Commercial Big. 75-77 Wyndham Street Central, Hong Kong Telephone: (852) 523 7624 Facsimile: (852) 521 7948 What People Eat and Drink and

Attitudes Toward Nutrition

- Prepared for -

National Heart Foundation Nutrition Seminar

Check-out Nutrition - A Recipe for Success

Wednesday, October 14, 1992

Harbourside Room, Darling Harbour, Sydney, N.S.W., 2000.

- Presented by -

<u>Gary C. Morgan</u>, Executive Chairman, The Roy Morgan Research Centre Pty. Ltd.

REF:L:GCM:Nutrition Seminar

Australian Member of the Gallup International Association

What Do Australians Eat and Drink

When I was asked to speak to the National Heart Foundation seminar I wondered what we as a research company could contribute.

We could ask people questions about how concerned they were about heart disease and good health, or how healthy their diets were.

But the real issue goes beyond knowledge and good intentions. What really counts is:

What's in the average Australian's shopping list? What do people like eating? What do people eat most of? What about take-away food? What about drinks - what people drink can be as damaging as what they eat?

From our data we find, a wide variety of grocery products is bought by Australian households, but many food items are purchased regularly by most households. Cheese is on 82% (see Table 1) of grocery buyer's shopping lists - more so on younger shopper's lists than older shopper's lists (86% c.f. 78%). In a month, 75% of shoppers will buy chicken and 74% margarine. (Less than half (46%) will buy butter).

Food most people liked (see Table 2) is seafood (71%), including fish and chips (51%), followed by chicken (64%), salads (64%), chinese (60%) and Italian pasta (51%). <u>Only 18% say they like health food</u>.

Fast-food outlets have a major influence on Australian's nutritional intake - especially younger people (see Table 3). 59% of all Australians report going to a fast-food outlet in any given four-week period, but this breaks down into 84% of 18-24 year olds, 70% of 25-44 year olds, 43% of 45-64 year olds and only 20% of people aged 65 years or over. 29% of all people or half of those who eat fast-food regularly - eat McDonalds. 21% eat KFC, 17% Pizza Hut, 9% Sizzler and 9% Hungry Jacks. 8% of the (17%) Pizza Hut purchases are by home delivery which is part of a total of 16% home delivery pizza.

Soft drink (mentioned by 65% of people) tops the list of beverages drunk in the last seven days (see Table 4), ahead of all alcoholic drinks (62%) and fruit juice (53%). However, 85% of young (18-24 year old) people are likely to drink soft drink, compared to 72% of 25-44 year olds, 53% of 45-64 year olds and 39% of people aged 65 or over. The most commonly drunk alcoholic beverage is, of course, beer. 38% of all people aged over 18 will have a beer in any given seven day period, but 78% will be men.

A break-down of soft drinks consumed (see Table 5) shows "Cola" to be the major choice. 42% of Australians will have had a "Cola" in seven days. Coca-Cola (30%) comprises most of this intake and Diet Coke 15%, while only 10% mentioned Pepsi - 5% Pepsi Cola and 5% Diet Pepsi. <u>Only 25% of people regularly drink low calorie soft drinks</u> - 27% of women c.f. 22% of men and 30% of 18-24 year olds.

Table 1 (popn. in '000), V%

18		ROCERY BUYER 18-44 45 a	and over	18	AGE OF G and over	ROCERY BUYER 18-44 45 a	and over	18		ROCERY BUYER	and over
(unweighted) (popn. in '000)	19788 7430.	11188 4060.	8600 3369,	(unweighted) (popn. in '000)	19788 7430.	11188 4060.	8600 3369.	(unweighted) (popn. in '000)	19788 7430.	11188 4060.	8600 3369.
OOD PERSONALLY				Lamb or Mutton	4010 54%	2090 51%	1921 57%	Jans, Conserves & Marmalades	3730 50%	2068 51%	1662 49%
OUGHT IN LAST 4 EEKS				Pork, Ham or Bacon	4682 63%	2657 65%	2025 60%	Bread	6704 90%	3723	2981 88%
ilk - powdered	899 12%	356 9%	543 16%	Single/multi-serve Frozen Meals	888 12%	548 14X	340 10%	Biscuits/Crackers	5638 76%	3151 78%	2487 74%
ilk - evaporated	436	221 5%	215 6%	Frozen Vegetables	4202 57%	2387 59%	1815 54%	Muesli/Health Bars, Fruit Slices	1807 24%	1328 33%	480 14%
ilk - condensed	600 8%	343 8%	257 8%	Canned Vegetables	1971 27%	1272 31%	698 21%	Savoury Snacks, Crisps or nibbles	2928 39%	2055 51%	873 26%
ilk - UHT	623 8%	347 9%	276	Canned Fruit	3118 42%	1725	1393 41x	Nuts	2160 29%	1227 30%	933 28%
rean	3209 43%	1859 46%	1351 40%	Rice	3969 53X	2304 57%	1666 49%	Breakfast Cereal, Muesli, Porridge	5828 78%	3261 80%	2567 76%
oghunt	3083 42%	1904 47%	1179 35%	Pasta	4020 54%	2689 66%	1331 39%	Packet Tea, Tea Bags	5043 68%	2578 64%	2464 73%
ce cream,ice onfections - taken ome	3967 53%	2255 56%	1712 51%	Spaghetti/Pasta Sauce	3214 43%	2158 53X	1056 31%	Coffee	5060 68%	2792 69%	2268 67%
heese - incl. rated, cottage etc	6110 82%	3474 86%	2637 78%	Soups - canned, instant, packet	2979 40%	1757 43%	1222 36%	Fruit Juices	4716 63%	2884 71%	1831 54%
utter	3357 45%	1866 46%	1491 44%	Stock cubes/powder	1910 26%	1110 27%	800 24%	Cordial	2881 39%	2015 50%	866 26%
largarine	5500 74%	2965 73%	2535 75%	Salad Dressings, Mayornaise	2822 38%	1651 41%	1171 35%	Cola Soft Drinks	3275 44%	2259 56%	1016 30%
airy Spread	1122 15%	682 17%	439 13%	Cooking Oils	3878 52%	2226 55%	1651 49%	Other Carbonated Soft Drinks	1830 25%	1081 27%	749 22%
hicken	5538 75%	3132 77%	2406 71%	Baby Food - tin	387 5%	330 8%	57 2X	Milk Flavouring - powdered/syrup	1102 15%	839 21%	263 8%
eef	4780 64%	2664 66%	2117 63%	Baby Food - jar	259 3X	206 5%	53 2X	Frozen Desserts - not ice cream	978 13%	639 16%	339 10%
				Baby Food - packet	144	121 3%	23 12	Cake Mixes	1376 19%	963 24%	413 12%

Table 2 (popn. in '000), V%

BASE: AGED 18 AND OVER

	TOTAL	SEX Men	Women	18-24	AGE 25-44	45-64	65 and over
(unweighted)	30849	15313	15536	3960	14217	8114	4558
(popn. in /000)	12329.	6065.	6264.	1985.	5258.	3533.	1554 -
TYPES OF FAST-FOOD LIKE							
Total Chinese	7370	3640	3730	1295	3494	1998	582
	60%	60%	60%	65%	66%	57%	37%
Spring Rolls	2922	1678	1244	692	1488	594	148
	24%	28%	20%	35%	28%	17%	10%
Other Chinese	6815	3319	3496	1158	3246	1878	533
	55%	55%	56%	58%	62%	53%	34%
Total Chicken	7875	4011	3864	1428	3538	2073	837
	64%	66%	62%	72%	67%	59X	54X
889 Chicken	6011	2993	3018	1046	2788	1601	575
	49%	49%	48%	53%	53%	45%	37%
Fried Chicken	3974	2346	1627	867	1806	925	376
	32%	39%	26%	44%	34%	26%	24%
Chicken Burger -	2079	1221	858	702	1048	268	61
Rolls	17%	20%	14%	35%	20%	8%	4%
Chicken Nuggets	2040	1166	873	573	966	356	145
	17%	19%	14%	29%	18%	10%	9%
Total Seafcod	8698	4497	4202	1400	3901	2420	977
	71%	74%	67%	71%	74%	68%	63%
Fish & Chips	6229	3397	2832	1075	2853	1611	690
	51%	56%	45%	54%	54%	46%	44%
Other Seafood	5872	3116	2756	911	2730	1659	573
	48%	51%	44%	46%	52%	47%	37%
Hanburger	4513	2695	1819	1077	2287	910	240
	37%	44%	29%	54%	44%	26%	15%
Meat Pies	4132	2580	1551	846	1820	987	478
	34%	43%	25%	43%	35%	28%	31%

AUSTRALIAN READERSHIP & PRODUCT DATA APR 1991 - MAR 1992

	TOTAL	SEX Men	Women	18-24	AGE 25-44	45-64 6	5 and over	
(unweighted) (popn. in '000)	30849 12329.	15313 6065.	15536 6264.	3960 1985,	14217 5258.	8114 3533.	4558 1554 -	
Pizzas	5953 48%	3085 51%	2868 46%	1363 69%	3181 60%	1178 33%	232 15%	
Italian Pasta	6239 51%	2882 48%	3357 54%	1221 62%	3174 60%	1509 43%	335 22%	
Lebanese Food	1809 15%	904 15%	905 14X	273 14%	1096 21%	389 11%	50 3%	
Mexican	2810 23%	1458 24%	1353 22%	656 33%	1658 32%	442 13%	54 3%	
French Food	2233 18%	1051 17%	1182 19%	275 14%	1218 23%	634 18%	106	
Greek Food	1978 16%	996 16%	982 16%	317 16%	1126 21%	470 13%	65 4%	
Indian Food	2559 21%	1339 22%	1220 19%	386 19%	1480 28%	591 17%	102 7%	
Other Asian	3148 26%	1644 27%	1504 24%	494 25%	1744 33%	788 22%	120 8%	
Health Food	2906 24%	1066 18%	1840 29%	556 28%	1408 27%	743 21%	198 13%	
Soups	5623 46%	2691 44%	2933 47%	743 37%	2394 46%	1681 48%	806 52%	
Salads	7920 64%	3508 58%	4412 70%	1247 63%	3463 66%	2297 65%	913 59%	

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Table 3 (popn. in '000), V%

BASE: AGED 18 AND OVER

.

	TOTAL	SEX	Women	18-24	AGE 25-44	45-64	65 and over
(unweighted)	30849	15313	15536	3960	14217	8114	4558
(popn. in '000)	12329.	6065.	6264.	1985.	5258.	3533.	1554 -
FAST FOOD IN LAST 4 WEEKS							
Big Rooster	453	251	202	134	221	85	13
	4%	4%	3%	7%	4%	2%	12
Kentucky Fried	2537	1362	1175	803	1250	408	76
Chicken	21%	22%	19%	40%	24%	12%	52
Red Rooster	814 7%	425 7%	388 6%	208 10%	409 8%	159 5%	37
Hungry Jacks	1096	631	465	381	552	147	16
	9%	10%	7%	19%	10%	4%	13
McDonalds	3602 29%	1874 31%	1728 28%	1031 52%	1902 36%	577 16%	93
Total Pizza Hut	2064 17%	1088 18%	977 16%	599 30%	1087	336 10%	43
Pizza Hut	1257	660	597	369	645	213	30
Restaurants	10%	11%	10%	19%	12%	6%	
Pizza Hut delivery	953	506	447	296	508	136	14
	8%	8%	7%	15%	10%	4%	15
Other Pizza delivery	1134 9%	625 10%	509 8%	323 16%	649 12%	151 4%	1
Total Home Delivery	1973	1052	921	562	1106	280	25
Pizza	16%	17%	15%	28%	21%	8%	
Sizzler	1116 9%	533 9%	583 9%	255 13%	465 9%	299 8%	97
TOTAL Been Last 4	7213	3655	3558	1673	3706	1517	317
Weeks	59%	60%	57%	84%	70%	43%	200
Not in Last 4 Weeks	5116 41%	2410 40%	2706 43%	311 163	1552 30%	2016 57%	1237

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Table 4 (popn. in '000), V%

BASE: AGED 18 AND OVER

	TOTAL	SEX		** **	AGE		
		Men	Momen	18-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over
(unweighted)	30849	15313	15536	3960	14217	8114	4558
(popn. in '000)	12329.	6065.	6264.	1985.	5258.	3533.	1554.
BEVERAGES DRUNK LAST 7 DAYS							
Soft Drink	7959	4098	3861	1689	3800	1860	611
	65%	68%	62%	85%	72%	53%	39%
Mineral Water	2153 17%	1020 17%	1133 18%	432 22%	1018 19%	533 15%	170
Fruit Juice	6514	3165	3348	1266	2947	1684	617
	53%	52%	53%	64%	56%	48%	40%
Pre-Mixed Flavored	1518	905	613	510	750	204	54
Nilk	12%	15%	10%	26%	14%	6%	3%
Non Alcoholic Cider	186	89	97	39	64	66	17
	2%	1%	2%	2%	1X	2%	1x
Total Alcoholic	7700	4454	3246	1252	3483	2157	808
Drinks	62%	73%	52%	63%	66%	61%	52%
Alcoholic Cider	161 1X	84 1%	78 1%	56 3%	76 1X	25 1X	5
Beer - Stout	4672	3640	1032	808	2212	1204	448
	38%	60%	16%	41%	42%	34%	29%
Spirits	2705	1522	1184	633	1126	681	265
	22%	25%	19%	32%	21%	19%	17%
Liqueur	606 5%	280 5%	327 5%	174	285 5%	113 3%	34 2%
Fortified Wines	1088	680	408	106	470	352	161
	9%	11%	7%	5%	9%	10%	10%
Total Table Wines	3719	1777	1941	409	1785	1172	353
	30%	29%	31%	21%	34%	33%	23%
Still Table Wines	3308	1628	1680	322	1585	1077	323
	27%	27%	27%	16%	304	30%	21%
Sparkling Table	971	391	580	161	508	243	60
Wines	8%	6%	9%	8%	10%	7%	4%
Wine Cooler	239	68	171	69	102	52	15
	2%	1%	3%	3%	2%	1%	1%

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Table 5 (popn. in '000), V%

BASE: AGED 18 AND OVER

	TOTAL	SEX Men	Women	18-24	AGE 25-44	45-64	65 and over
(unweighted)	30849	15313	15536	3960	14217	8114	4558
(popn. in '000)	12329.	6065.	6264.	1985.	5258.	3533.	1554 -
SOFT DRINK DRUNK IN LAST 7 DAYS							
Low Calorie Soft	3055	1349	1706	596	1443	790	227
Drink	25%	22%	27%	30%	27%	22%	15%
Total Normal Soft	5856	3302	2554	1441	2849	1183	383
Drink	47%	54%	41%	73%	54%	33%	25%
Diet Coke	1788	806	982	360	920	424	84
	15%	13%	16%	18%	18%	12%	5%
TAB	48 0%	16 0%	32 1%	6 0%	21 0%	17 0%	ox
Diet Pepsi	640	291	349	135	349	137	18
	5%	5%	6%	7%	7x	4%	1%
Diet Schweppes Cola	151	93	58	55	76	16	5
	1%	2%	1%	34	1X	0%	0%
Other Lo. Cal. Cola	84 1%	35 1%	48 12	16 1X	39 1%	25 1%	ox.
Coca Cola	3716	2278	1438	1116	1946	581	73
	30%	38%	23%	56%	37%	16%	5%
Pepsi Cola	633	400	233	240	313	74	6
	5%	7%	4%	12%	6X	2%	0%
Pepsi Free	13 0%	0X	0%	5 0%	5 0%	3	00%
Schweppes Cola	103 1%	47 1%	57 1%	22 13	54 1%	22 1%	. 5
Other Cola	134	79	55	24	76	27	7
	1%	1%	1%	13	1X	1%	0%
Total Coke	5172	2887	2285	1358	2703	955	156
	42%	48%	36%	68%	51%	27%	10%

AUSTRALIAN READERSHIP & PRODUCT DATA APR 1991 - MAR 1992

	TOTAL	SEX Hen	Women	18-24	AGE 25-44	45-64	65 and over
(unweighted)	30849	15313	15536	3960	14217	8114	4558
(popn. in '000)	12329.	6065.	6264.	1985.	5258.	3533.	1554.
Total Pepsi	1219	654	564	357	633	203	25
	10%	11%	9%	18%	12%	6%	2%
Diet/Lo-cal Sunkist	184	83	102	52	86	39	8
	1%	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%	0%
Diet/Lo-cal Fanta	154 1%	61 1%	92 1%	37 2%	72 1%	37 1%	7
Other Lo-cal Orange	85	49	36	10	32	32	12
fizzy soft drink	1%	13	13	0%	1%	1%	1%
Sunkist	300	177	123	105	143	34	19
	2%	3%	2%	5%	3%	1%	13
Fanta	581	337	244	226	249	81	25
	5%	6%	4%	11%	5%	2%	2%
Other Orange fizzy	288	173	115	52	124	84	29
soft drink		3%	2X	3%	2%	2%	23
Diet/Lo-cal Sprite	324	125	200	71	153	81	19
	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	2%	13
Diet/Lo-cal 7-Up	124	48	76	33	59	24	a
	13	12	1%	2%	12	1X	ox
Lo-cal Schweppes	218	82	136	31	82	69	37
Lemonade	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Other Lo-cal	244	94	150	24	100	92	28
Lemonade	2%	2X	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%
Sprite	567 5%	287 5%	280 4%	173 9%	262 5%	100 3%	
7-Up	192	115	77	69	88	27	8
	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	1%	0%
Schweppes Lenonade	731	363	368	175	291	164	101
	6%	6%	6%	9%	6%	5%	6%
Other Lemonade	675	335	341	95	300	188	93
	5%	6%	5%	5%	6%	5%	6%
Diet Solo	200	85	115	42	75	62	22
	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	13

AUSTRALIAN READERSHIP & PRODUCT DATA APR 1991 - MAR 1992

	TOTAL	SEX Men	Women	18-24	AGE 25-44	45-64 6	5 and over	
(unweighted)	30849	15313	15536	3960	14217	8114	4558	
(popn. in '000)	12329.	6065.	6264.	1985.	5258.	3533.	1554.	
Diet Lift	129 1%	51 1%	78 1%	38 2%	56 1%	27 1%	8 1%	
Other Diet Lemon	97	47	49	17	36	31	13	
Fizzy Soft Drink	13	13	1%	12	12	1%	1%	
Solo	639 5%	383 6%	256 4%	216 11%	270 5%	122 3%	31 2%	
Lift	238 2%	128 2%	110 2%	94 5%	105 2%	34 1%	6 0%	
Other Lemon Fizzy	270	156	115	41	136	66	27	
Soft Drink	2%	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	
Other Lo. Cal. Soft	120	56	65	31	53	29	7	
Drink	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	
Other Soft Drink	335 3%	178 3%	157 3%	69 3%	157 3%	82 2%	27 2%	
Dry Ginger - drunk by itself	572 5%	275 5%	297 5%	77 43	189 4%	205	101 7%	
Tonic Water - drunk	232	105	128	21	95	85	31	
by itself	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2X	2%	
Bitter Lemon - drunk	226	122	104	30	87	76	34	
by itself	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	

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Attitudes Toward Nutrition

Almost half the population (48%) consider themselves to be overweight, including 12% who say they are "definitely overweight" as opposed to 36% who describe themselves as "a little overweight". Women are twice as likely as men to describe themselves as "definitely overweight" (16% c.f. 8%).

In conjunction with this critical weight self-assessment is the statement by 44% of people that they do not exercise regularly, including 9% who have no intention of starting. Although this last group is comprised mostly of older people (23% of people aged over 65 years do not intend to start exercising regularly compared to only 4% of 18-24 year olds), older people are in fact more likely than all others to exercise regularly.

The type of exercise, however, varies greatly. 54% of people aged under 45 said they exercised vigorously (exercise which made them breathe harder or puff and pant) in the two weeks prior to the survey, compared to only 22% of people aged over 45 who said they exercised vigorously.

When it comes to diet, the overwhelming majority of Australians (86%) believe they eat a healthy diet - one which does not have too much fat, is varied and has plenty of fruits, vegetables and breads. Women are more likely than men to believe they eat a healthy diet (88% c.f. 83%), as are those aged 45 years or over (93%) compared to under 45's (81%).

Foods which people would avoid in order to reduce their blood cholesterol level were: fried food (mentioned by 86%), dairy food (61%), salt (52%), alcohol (46%) and meat (33% - although not lean meat, mentioned by only 2%).

Quitting smoking completely was mentioned most often, by 78%, as an action which would have a large effect on preventing heart disease. Reducing smoking was mentioned least often, by 24%. Other actions regarded as having a large effect on preventing heart disease were: lowering high blood pressure (mentioned by 75%), reducing overweight (74%), lowering high blood cholesterol (70%), eating fewer high-fat foods (69%), reducing stress (65%), eating fewer high-cholesterol foods (64%), eating more cereals, fruits and vegetables (62%) and increasing exercise (53%). Drinking less alcohol was mentioned by 38% and eating less salt by 37%.

These are the main findings of a special survey on community attitudes to health, conducted for the National Heart Foundation by The Roy Morgan Research Centre. 2,359 people aged 14 years or over were interviewed face-to-face across Australia on the weekend of May 25/26 and June 1/2, 1991.

Weight Self-assessment

Respondents were shown a card listing five weight descriptions - definitely overweight/underweight, a little overweight/underweight and neither overweight nor underweight. They were asked: "Which statement best describes you?"

Nearly half the population (48%) considered themselves to be overweight - 36% "a little overweight" and 12% "definitely overweight". Women were twice as likely as men to consider themselves "definitely overweight" (16% c.f. 8%).

41% considered themselves to be "neither overweight nor underweight" - 44% of men and 38% of women, while 11% said they were underweight - 9% "a little underweight" and 2% "definitely underweight". Men were more likely than women to consider themselves underweight (14% c.f. 9%).

		s	ex		Age		
Are you	Total %	Male %	Female %	$\frac{18 \cdot 24}{\%}$	$\frac{25 - 44}{\%}$	$\frac{45 \cdot 64}{\%}$	<u>65+</u> %
Definitely overweight A little overweight	12 36	8 34	16 37	8 28	13 34	$\begin{array}{c} 16 \\ 44 \end{array}$	10 34
Total said they were overweight	48	42	53	36	47	60	44
Neither overweight nor underweight	41	44	38	47	42	32	49
A little underweight Definitely underweight	9 2	12 2	7 2	15 2	9 2	6 2	5 2
Total said they were underweight	$\frac{11}{100}$	14 100	9 100	17 100	$\frac{11}{100}$	8 100	7

Exercise Habits

Respondents were shown a list of statements about exercise habits and asked to name the one "that best describes what you think about yourself and exercise".

Most people (56%) said that they exercise regularly and intend to continue doing so - a characteristic more typical of men (61%) than women (51%).

11% said they were taking some sort of action to start exercise, or do more exercise (such as joining a class, setting a time to exercise, buying sports shoes, etc), 11% said they were actively thinking about how to start to exercise, or do more exercise, while 13% believed they should start to exercise or do more exercise but were not quite ready.

9% admitted that they did not exercise and had no intention of starting - although 23% of older people (those aged 65 years or more) said this compared to only 4% of younger people (those aged 18-24 years).

		S	ex	Age					
Which statement best describes you and exercise:	Total %	Male %	Female %	<u>18 - 24</u> %	<u>25 - 44</u> %	<u>45 - 64</u> %	<u>65+</u> %		
I already exercise regularly and intend to continue	56	61	51	58	52	58	60		
I'm taking some sort of action to start to exercise or do more exercise	11	10	12	13	14	8	5		
I'm actively thinking about how to start to exercise, or do more exercise	11	8	14	13	12	11	4		
I think I should start to exercise, or do more exercise, but I'm not quite ready	13	12	14	12	16	13	8		
I do not exercise and do not intend to start	9	9	9	4	6	10	23		
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100		

Frequency of Exercise

Respondents were asked: "In the past two weeks, did you engage in vigorous exercise for recreation, sport or health and fitness - exercise which made you breathe harder or puff or pant?" People who had exercised vigorously were then asked: "How many sessions of vigorous exercise did you do over the past two weeks?"

Only 42% of the population had exercised vigorously in the previous two weeks, although this varied greatly according to sex (48% of men c.f. 36% of women) and age (54% of under 45's c.f. only 22% of people aged 45 years or over).

75% of young males had exercised vigorously in the past two weeks.

17% of all people had exercised vigorously six times or more in the previous fortnight, while 25% had exercised vigorously less than six times.

Although young people were much more likely than all others to have exercised vigorously in the preceding two weeks, the frequency of their vigorous exercise was no higher.

		s	ex		A	ge	
No. of vigorous sessions of exercise in previous two weeks:	Total %	Male %	Female %	<u>18 - 24</u> %	<u>25 - 44</u> %	<u>45 - 64</u> %	$\frac{65+}{\%}$
Less than 6	25	28	22	39	29	15	6
6 - 8	8	11	6	13	10	5	3
9 or more	9	9	8	13	9	5	6
Total engaged in vigorous exercise in previous two weeks	42	48	36	65	48	25	15
Total did not engage in vigorous exercise in previous two weeks	58	52 100	64 100	35 100	52 100	75	85 100

Healthy Diet

Respondents were told: "People say that a healthy diet is one which does not have too much fat, is varied, and has plenty of fruits, vegetables and breads". They were then asked: "In general, do you think that you eat this type of healthy diet now?"

The following table shows that 86% of Australians believe they are eating a healthy diet - a belief held more strongly by women (88%) than men (83%). Older people (those aged 45 years or over) are also more likely to believe they eat a healthy diet than those aged under 45 - 93% c.f. 81%.

		s	ex	Age				
Are you eating a healthy diet:	Total %	Male %	Female %	<u>18 - 24</u> %	<u>25 - 44</u> %	<u>45 - 64</u> %	<u>65+</u> %	
Yes	86	83	88	74	84	91	98	
No	14	17	12	26	16	9	2	
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	

Lowering Blood Cholesterol

Respondents were then shown a card listing various foods and asked: "If your doctor told you that you had to lower your blood cholesterol level, which, if any, of the foods on that card would you avoid having?"

Fried food (mentioned by 86%) was cited most often as a food to avoid in order to lower blood cholesterol levels, followed by dairy foods (61%) and salt (52%). Alcohol was mentioned by 46% and meat by 33% (although only 2% mentioned lean meat), while 2% or less mentioned fish, cereals/bread and vegetables.

		s	ex	Age			
Foods to avoid to lower cholesterol:	Total %	Male %	Female %	$\frac{18-24}{\%}$	$\frac{25-44}{\%}$. <u>45 - 64</u> %	$\frac{65+}{\%}$
Fried food	86	82	90	86	86	86	83
Dairy food Low fat dairy food	54 7	53 6	55 7	43 5	56 5	60 9	49 9
Total dairy food	61	59	62	48	61	69	58
Salt Alcohol	52 46	50 44	55 48	53 53	51 42	53 46	53 47
Lean meat Other meat	2 31	3 31	2 31	1 26	3 33	3 38	2 20
Total meat	33	34	33	27	36	41	22
Fish Cereal/bread Vegetables	2 2 *	2 2 *	2 2 *	2 2 -	1 3 *	2 2	2 2 *

* mentioned by less than 0.5%.

not mentioned.

Prevention of Heart Disease

Respondents were read a list of actions that people might take to prevent heart disease. They were asked to say for each one whether they thought that action would have <u>little or no</u> effect, a <u>moderate</u> effect, or a <u>large</u> effect on <u>preventing heart disease</u>. The following table shows the actions which people believe would have a large effect on the prevention of heart disease.

		s	ex	Age			
Actions which will have a large effect on preventing heart disease:	Total %	Male %	Female %	<u>18 - 24</u> %	<u>25 - 44</u> %	<u>45 - 64</u> %	<u>65 +</u> %
Quitting smoking completely	78	75	81	81	77	79	78
Lowering high blood pressure	75	72	77	68	77	78	71
Reducing overweight	74	70	78	73	76	76	68
Lowering high blood cholesterol	70	69	71	73	70	71	65
Eating fewer high-fat foods	69	65	73	71	68	70	68
Reducing stress	65	62	68	55	69	68	60
Eating fewer high-cholesterol foods	64	60	68	66	62	66	61
Eating more cereals, fruits and vegetables	62	55	68	63	60	62	64
Increasing exercise	53	51	54	62	58	50	39
Fewer alcoholic beverages	38	31	44	41	33	39	45
Eating less salt	37	34	41	38	36	39	35
Reducing smoking	24	22	27	21	23	28	29