

Recipe And Nutrient File Formats

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An issue of increasing importance in monitoring what Americans eat is the need to compare food and nutrient intakes over time. In order to compare results from surveys, nutrient data bases used to calculate intakes must account for improvements in food composition data and also reflect the nutrient content of foods at each point in time. To meet the need to compare nutrient intake data over a number of years, HNIS is developing a nutrient data base system which will account for new and improved food composition data and thus will allow the recalculation of previously collected food intake data. This system will also permit tracking changes in nutrient values that are due to a variety of reasons, such as reformulation of a food with a lower sodium content. The design of the system, files included, their purpose and structure were described.