

NUMBERS THAT COUNT FOR A HEALTHY HEART

5
40 50 35 130 25 120/80



Learn and Live®

NUMBERS	GOAL
TOTAL CHOLESTEROL	Less than 200 mg/dL
LDL ("BAD") CHOLESTEROL (There are different goals for each level of risk for heart disease)	<p>People who are at low risk for heart disease: Less than 160 mg/dL</p> <p>People at intermediate risk for heart disease: Less than 130 mg/dL</p> <p>People at high risk for heart disease including those who have heart disease or diabetes: Less than 100 mg/dL</p> <p>People at very high risk for heart disease: Less than 70 mg/dL</p>
HDL ("GOOD") CHOLESTEROL	Women: 50 mg/dL or higher Men: 40 mg/dL or higher
TRIGLYCERIDES	Less than 150 mg/dL
BLOOD PRESSURE	Less than 120/80 mm Hg
FASTING GLUCOSE	Less than 100 mg/dL
BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)	Less than 25 kg/m²
WAIST CIRCUMFERENCE	Women: 35 inches or less Men: 40 inches or less
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY	<p>At least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity at least 5 days per week OR At least 20 minutes of vigorous aerobic activity at least 3 days per week AND Strength/endurance activity at least 2 days per week</p>

DIET AND NUTRITION

The amount of food you need depends on your personal calorie needs and health status. If you need 2,000 calories each day you should:

- Eat **6 to 8 daily servings of grain products**, with at least half as whole grains.
1 serving = 1 slice bread, 1oz. dry cereal or 1/2 cup cooked rice.
- Eat **4 to 5 cups of fruits and vegetables** each day, in a variety of colors and types.
- Eat **2 to 3 cups of fat-free or low-fat dairy** products each day.
- Eat **3 to 6 oz. (cooked) of lean meats, poultry or seafood** per day.
3 oz. of meat or poultry is about the size of a computer mouse; 3 oz. of fish is about the size of a checkbook.
- Limit intake to **2 to 3 servings per day of fats and oils**. Use liquid vegetable oils and soft margarines most often to reduce saturated and trans fats.
1 serving = 1 teaspoon of soft margarine or 1 tablespoon of mayonnaise.
- Eat **3 to 5 servings per week of nuts, seeds and legumes**.
1 serving = 1/3 cup nuts, 2 tablespoons peanut butter or 1/2 cup dry beans or peas.
- Limit **cholesterol intake to 300 mg per day** for people with no heart disease risk factors or to **200 mg per day** for those with heart disease risk factors.
- Aim to eat **less than 2,300 mg of salt per day**. Some people — African Americans, middle-aged and older adults, and people with high blood pressure — **need less than 1,500 mg per day**.
- Limit **sweets and added sugars to 5 or fewer servings per week**.
1 serving = 1 tablespoon sugar, 1 tablespoon jam, 1/2 cup sorbet or 1 cup lemonade.

TOBACCO

Eliminate all tobacco products and exposure to secondhand smoke.

ALCOHOL

Women: no more than **1 drink per day**.

Men: no more than **2 drinks per day**.

1 drink = 5 oz. wine, 1 oz. liquor or 12 oz. beer

www.AmericanHeart.org/NumbersThatCount