

Canadians consume about 11% of their energy from added sugars, well below the Institute of Medicine's suggested maximum of 25%.







Canadian consumption of sugar has been declining over the past four decades. On average, Canadian adults consume nearly a third less added sugars than US adults.















All green plants manufacture sugar (sucrose) through a process called photosynthesis.















Sugar is a carbohydrate and like all carbohydrates, provides

4 calories per gram, compared to fat which has

9 calories per gram.









The term "Sugars" on the nutrition label of food packages refers to total sugars, including naturally occurring lactose in milk and sugars in fruits, and added sugars.







The term "sugar" in the ingredient list can only refer to sugar from sugar cane or sugar beet.









Granulated sugar is more than 99.8% pure sucrose.

The sugar refining process removes impurities and cleans the sugar crystals.









Pure sucrose is naturally white. The purification process removes impurities from raw sugar to reveal the naturally white sugar crystals.







Most consumers overestimate the calories in sugar:

1 teaspoon of sugar has just 16 calories!







Granulated sugar, brown sugar, honey, and maple syrup all provide 4 calories of energy per gram and have similar nutritional values.















Products labelled "reduced in sugar" or "lower in sugar" can be misleading as these products aren't necessarily reduced in carbohydrates or calories.







A small amount of added sugar has the unique ability to improve the flavour of many nutritious foods, such as whole-grain breads and sweetened yogurts.















Sugar is a natural preservative, such as in jams and jellies, inhibiting the growth of microorganisms that can cause food to spoil.







Sugar is very important in bread making, working with yeast to make bread rise.









Sugar consumption does not have a direct correlation with weight gain.

To maintain a healthy weight, a modest decrease in calorie intake and an increase in physical activity are advised.



