

Healthy Food Partnership Executive Committee

Communiqué

20 February 2025 – Meeting 18

The Australian Government, food industry bodies and public health groups met on 20 February 2025 to progress the work of the Healthy Food Partnership (the Partnership), a joint collaboration that supports and encourages Australians to eat well and live healthier lives.

The Partnership is chaired by the Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon. Ged Kearney MP and comprises representatives from ALDI, the Australian Food and Grocery Council, AusVeg, Coles, Dairy Australia, Dietitians Australia, Food Standards Australia New Zealand, Meat and Livestock Australia, Metcash, National Heart Foundation of Australia, Public Health Association of Australia, Woolworths and the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

The meeting focussed on the Partnership Reformulation Program.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) presented its evaluation of achievements made by companies participating in Wave 2 of the Partnership Reformulation Program ([published in May 2024](#)).

- Of 249 participating products in scope for sodium reformulation, 16% recorded a decrease in sodium content between June 2021 and June 2023.
- The consumption impact from the sodium reformulation was estimated to be a reduction of less than 1 mg per capita per day, equivalent to 3.3 tonnes of sodium over the year to June 2023.
- Of the 199 participating products in scope for sugar reformulation, 32% recorded a decrease in their sugar content between June 2021 and June 2023.
- The reduction in sugar from the participating products was less than 0.1 gram per capita per day. However, over the year to June 2023, this equates to the removal of 261 tonnes of sugar from the food supply.

A detailed report on achievements of participating companies against Wave 1 reformulation targets will be published by the ABS in 2025.

Members discussed qualitative and quantitative results from the review of Wave 1 of the Partnership Reformulation Program. This included collective achievements of participating companies against Wave 1 reformulation targets, experiences of participating companies, enablers and barriers to participation in the Program and suggestions for improvement.

Members also received an update on Wave 3 of the Partnership Reformulation Program which has recently been published for public consultation. Wave 3 reformulation targets include plant-based meat alternatives, flavoured tofu, plant-

based yoghurts and packaged salads. Stakeholder feedback from the consultation will inform any revisions to the draft targets or category definitions before the Healthy Food Partnership Secretariat presents the Wave 3 targets back to the Executive Committee for endorsement.

Members also received an update on other related food regulatory projects such as work on improving commercial foods for infants and young children and the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act Review.

Members discussed future priorities to strengthen the Healthy Food Partnership and its impact on the healthfulness of the food supply.

Further information about work areas and membership of the working and reference groups is available online at <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/healthy-food-partnership>.