Food Code Numbers and the Food Coding Scheme

In the Food and Nutrient Database for Dietary Studies (FNDDS), the primary (usually generic) description of a given food is assigned a unique 8-digit food code. The food code is assigned according to a scheme that associates the first three or four digits of the code number with specific food groups and subgroups. The first digit in the food code identifies one of nine major food groups:

1. milk and milk products
2. meat, poultry, fish, and mixtures
3. eggs
4. legumes, nuts, and seeds
5. grain products
6. fruits
7. vegetables
8. fats, oils, and salad dressings
9. sugars, sweets, and beverages

The second, third, and (sometimes) fourth digits of a food code identify increasingly more specific subgroups within the nine major food groups. The remaining digits are used to identify particular foods within a numerical sequence. Shown below is an example of a food item and how the first three digits signify which groups the food item belongs to:

55103000 Pancakes, with fruit
-- The first digit (5) means this food item is in the Grain Products section.
-- The first two digits (55) mean this item is in the Pancakes, Waffles, French Toast, Other Grain Products section.
-- The first three digits (551) mean this food item is in the Pancake section.

The complete Food Coding Scheme begins on the next page.
Food Coding Scheme

1 Milk and Milk Products
11 Milks and milk drinks
110 Milk, human
111 Milk, fluid (regular; filled; buttermilk; and dry reconstituted)
112 Milk, fluid, evaporated and condensed
113 Milk, fluid, imitation
114 Yogurt
   1148 Yogurt, baby food
115 Flavored milk and milk drinks, fluid
117 Infant formulas, fluid, reconstituted concentrate, reconstituted dry, and ready-to-feed
   (milk-based formulas; soy-based formulas; therapeutic formulas)
118 Milk, dry, and powdered mixtures with dry milk, not reconstituted

12 Creams and cream substitutes
121 Sweet dairy cream
122 Cream substitutes
123 Sour cream

13 Milk desserts, sauces, gravies
131 Milk desserts, frozen
132 Puddings, custards, and other milk desserts
133 Milk desserts baby food
134 White sauces and milk gravies

14 Cheeses
140 Cheese, NS² as to type
141 Natural cheeses
142 Cottage cheeses
143 Cream cheeses
144 Processed cheeses and cheese spreads
145 Imitation cheeses
146 Cheese mixtures
147 Cheese soups

²NS = not specified
2 **Meat, Poultry, Fish, and Mixtures**

20 **Meat, NS as to type**

200 Meat, NS as to type

21 **Beef**

210 Beef, NFS

211 Beef steak

213 Beef oxtails, neckbones, short ribs, head

214 Beef roasts, stew meat, corned beef, beef brisket, sandwich steaks

215 Ground beef, beef patties, beef meatballs

216 Other beef items (beef bacon; dried beef; pastrami)

217 Beef baby food

22 **Pork**

220 Pork, NFS; ground, dehydrated

221 Pork chops

222 Pork steaks, cutlets

223 Ham

224 Pork roasts

225 Canadian bacon

226 Bacon, salt pork

227 Other pork items (spareribs; cracklings; skin; miscellaneous parts)

228 Pork baby food

23 **Lamb, veal, game, other carcass meat**

230 Lamb, NFS

231 Lamb and goat

232 Veal

233 Game

234 Lamb or veal baby food

24 **Poultry**

241 Chicken (breast; leg; drumstick; wing; back; neck or ribs; misc.)

242 Turkey

243 Duck

244 Other poultry

247 Poultry baby food

25 **Organ meats, sausages and lunchmeats, and meat spreads**

251 Organ meats and mixtures

2511 Liver

2512 Hearts

2513 Kidney

2514 Sweetbreads

2515 Brains

^NFS = not further specified.
2516 Tongue
2517 Other variety meats

252 Frankfurters, sausages, lunchmeats, meat spreads
2521 Frankfurters
2522 Sausages
2523 Luncheon meats (loaf)
2524 Potted meat, spreads

26 Fish and shellfish
261 Finfish
262 Other seafood
263 Shellfish

27 Meat, poultry, fish with nonmeat items
271 Meat, poultry, fish in gravy or sauce or creamed
   2711 Beef in gravy or sauce (tomato-based sauce; gravy; cream, white, or soup-based sauce; soy-based sauce; other sauce; Puerto Rican)
   2712 Pork with gravy or sauce
   2713 Lamb and veal with gravy or sauce
   2714 Poultry with gravy or sauce (tomato-based sauce; gravy; cream, white, or soup-based sauce; soy-based sauce; other sauces; Puerto Rican)
   2715 Fish, shellfish with gravy or sauce
   2716 Miscellaneous meats with gravy or sauce

272 Meat, poultry, fish with starch item (includes white potatoes)
   2721 Beef with starch item (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread; Puerto Rican)
   2722 Pork with starch item
   2723 Lamb, veal, game with starch item
   2724 Poultry with starch item (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread)
   2725 Fish, shellfish with starch item
   2726 Miscellaneous meats with starch item

273 Meat, poultry, fish with starch item and vegetables
   2731 Beef with starch and vegetable (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread; Puerto Rican)
   2732 Pork with starch and vegetable
   2733 Lamb, veal, game with starch and vegetable
   2734 Poultry with starch and vegetable (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread; Puerto Rican)
   2735 Fish, shellfish with starch and vegetable
   2736 Miscellaneous meats with starch and vegetable

274 Meat, poultry, fish with vegetables (excluding white potatoes)
   2741 Beef with vegetable, no potatoes
   2742 Pork with vegetable, no potatoes
   2743 Lamb, veal, game with vegetable, no potatoes
   2744 Poultry with vegetables, no potatoes
   2745 Fish, shellfish with vegetables, no potatoes
2746 Miscellaneous meats with vegetable, no potatoes
275 Sandwiches with meat, poultry, fish
  2751 Beef sandwiches
  2752 Pork sandwiches
  2754 Poultry sandwiches
  2755 Fish, shellfish sandwiches
  2756 Frankfurters, luncheon meat, potted meat sandwiches
  2757 Hors d’oeuvres, finger sandwiches
276 Meat, poultry, fish with nonmeat items baby food
  2761 Beef mixtures baby food
  2764 Poultry mixtures baby food

28 Frozen and shelf-stable plate meals, soups, and gravies with meat, poultry, fish base; gelatin and gelatin-based drinks
281 Frozen or shelf-stable plate meals with meat, poultry, fish as major ingredient
  2811 Beef frozen or shelf-stable meals
  2813 Veal frozen or shelf-stable meals
  2814 Poultry frozen or shelf-stable meals
  2815 Fish, shellfish frozen meals
  2816 Miscellaneous meat frozen or shelf-stable meals
283 Soups, broths, extracts from meat, poultry, fish base
  2831 Beef soups
  2832 Pork soups
  2833 Lamb soups
  2834 Poultry, soups
    28345 Poultry cream soups
  2835 Fish, shellfish soups
  2836 Puerto Rican soups
284 Gelatin and gelatin-based meal supplements
285 Gravies from meat, poultry, fish base
3 Eggs
31 Eggs
   311 Chicken eggs
   312 Other poultry eggs
32 Egg mixtures
   321 Egg dishes (mixtures made with whole eggs)
   322 Egg sandwiches
   323 Egg soups
   324 Mixtures made with egg whites
33 Egg substitutes
   330 Egg substitute, NS as to form
   334 Mixtures made with egg substitutes
35 Frozen plate meals with egg as major ingredient
   350 Frozen plate meals with egg as major ingredient
4  **Dry Beans, Peas, Other Legumes, Nuts, and Seeds**

41  **Legumes**
   411  Dried beans
   412  Dried beans mixtures
   413  Dried peas, lentils, and mixtures
   414  Soybean derived products (excluding milks)
   416  Soups with legumes as major ingredient
   418  Meat substitutes, mainly legume protein
   419  Meat substitute sandwiches

42  **Nuts, nut butters, and nut mixtures**
   421  Nuts
   422  Nut butters
   423  Nut butter sandwiches
   424  Coconut beverages
   425  Nut mixtures

43  **Seeds and seed mixtures**
   431  Seeds

44  **Carob products**
   441  Carob powder, flour
   442  Carob chips, syrup
5 Grain Products

50 Flour and dry mixes
   500 Flour and dry mixes

51 Yeast breads, rolls
   510 Breads, rolls, NFS
   511 White breads, rolls
   512 Whole wheat breads, rolls
   513 Wheat, cracked wheat breads, rolls
   514 Rye breads, rolls
   515 Oat breads
   516 Multigrain breads, rolls
   518 Other breads

52 Quick breads
   521 Biscuits
   522 Cornbread, corn muffins, tortillas
   523 Other muffins, popovers
   524 Other quick breads

53 Cakes, cookies, pies, pastries, bars
   531 Cakes
   532 Cookies
   533 Pies (fruit pies; pie tarts; cream and custard pies; miscellaneous pies; pie shells)
   534 Cobblers, eclairs, turnovers, other pastries
   535 Danish, breakfast pastries, doughnuts
   536 Coffee cake, not yeast
   537 Bars
      5371 Cereal bars, granola bars
      5372 Nutrition bars (protein, energy, meal replacement, etc.)
   538 Cookies and bars, baby food

54 Crackers and salty snacks from grain products
   540 Crackers, NS as to type
   541 Sweet crackers
   542 Low sodium crackers
   543 Nonsweet crackers
   544 Salty snacks from grain products

55 Pancakes, waffles, French toast, other grain products
   551 Pancakes
   552 Waffles
   553 French toast
   554 Crepes
   555 Flour-water patties
   556 Flour-milk dumplings, plain
   557 Rice flour cakes
   558 Funnel cakes
56  *Pastas, cooked cereals, rice*
   561  Pastas
   562  Cooked cereals, rice

57  *Cereals, not cooked or NS as to cooked*
   570  Cereal, NS as to cooked
   571  Ready-to-eat cereals
   572  Ready-to-eat cereals
   573  Ready-to-eat cereals
   574  Ready-to-eat cereals
   576  Cereal grains, not cooked
   578  Cereals baby food

58  *Grain mixtures, frozen plate meals, soups*
   581  Mixtures, mainly grain, pasta, or bread
   582  Mixtures, mainly grain, pasta, or bread
   583  Frozen plate meals with grain mixture as major ingredient
   584  Soups with grain product as major ingredient
   585  Grain mixtures baby food

59  *Meat substitutes, mainly cereal protein*
   590  Meat substitutes, mainly cereal protein
6 Fruits

61 Citrus fruits, juices
   611 Citrus fruits
   612 Citrus fruit juices

62 Dried fruits
   621 Dried fruits

63 Other fruits
   631 Fruits, excluding berries
   632 Berries
   633 Mixtures of two or more fruits
   634 Mixtures of fruits and nonfruit items

64 Fruit juices and nectars excluding citrus
   641 Fruit juices, excluding citrus
   642 Nectars
   644 Vinegar

67 Fruits and juices baby food
   671 Fruits and fruit mixtures baby food
   672 Fruit juice and fruit juice mixtures baby food
   673 Fruits with cereal baby food
   674 Fruit desserts and fruit-flavored puddings and yogurt desserts baby food
   675 Fruits with meat or poultry baby food
   676 Fruits and vegetables mixtures baby food
7 Vegetables

71 White potatoes and Puerto Rican starchy vegetables
   710 White potatoes, NFS
   711 White potatoes, baked and boiled
   712 White potatoes, chips and sticks
   713 White potatoes, creamed, scalloped, au gratin
   714 White potatoes, fried
   715 White potatoes, mashed, stuffed, puffs
   716 Potato salad
   717 Potato recipes
   718 Potato soups
   719 Puerto Rican starchy vegetables

72 Dark-green vegetables
   721 Dark-green leafy vegetables
   722 Dark-green nonleafy vegetables
   723 Dark-green vegetable soups

73 Deep-yellow vegetables
   731 Carrots
   732 Pumpkin
   733 Squash, winter
   734 Sweet potatoes
   735 Deep-yellow vegetable soups

74 Tomatoes and tomato mixtures
   741 Tomatoes, raw
   742 Tomatoes, cooked
   743 Tomato juices
   744 Tomato sauces
   745 Tomato mixtures
   746 Tomato soups
   747 Tomato sandwiches

75 Other vegetables
   751 Other vegetables, raw
      7514 Raw vegetable mixtures
   752 Other vegetables, cooked
   753 Other vegetable mixtures, cooked
   754 Other cooked vegetables, cooked with sauces, batters, casseroles
   755 Olives, pickles, relishes (excluding tomatoes)
   756 Vegetable soups

76 Vegetables and mixtures mostly vegetables baby food
   761 Dark-green vegetables baby food
   762 Deep-yellow vegetables baby food
   764 Vegetables other than dark-green, deep-yellow, and tomato baby food
   765 Vegetables with grain baby food
766 Vegetables with meat baby food

77 Vegetables with meat, poultry, fish
771 White potato with meat, poultry, fish (mixtures)
772 Puerto Rican starchy vegetable (viandas) mixtures
773 Other vegetable mixtures
775 Puerto Rican stews or soups with starchy vegetables (viandas)

78 Mixtures mostly vegetables without meat, poultry, fish
781 Vegetable and fruit juice blends, 100% juice
8  Fats, Oils, and Salad Dressings

81  Fats
    811  Table fats
    812  Cooking fats
    813  Other fats

82  Oils
    821  Vegetable oils

83  Salad dressings
    831  Regular salad dressings
    832  Light salad dressings
    833  Fat free salad dressings
9 Sugars, Sweets, and Beverages

91 Sugars and sweets
   911 Sugars and sugar-sugar substitute blends
   912 Sugar replacements or substitute
   913 Syrups, honey, molasses, sweet toppings
   914 Jellies, jams, preserves
   915 Gelatin desserts or salads
   916 Ices or popsicles
   917 Candies
   918 Chewing gums

92 Nonalcoholic beverages
   921 Coffee
   922 Coffee substitutes
   923 Tea
   924 Soft drinks, carbonated
   925 Fruit drinks
      9251 Fruit juice drinks and fruit-flavored drinks
      9253 Fruit juice drinks and fruit flavored drinks with high vitamin C
      9254 Fruit flavored drinks, made from powdered mix
      9255 Fruit juice drinks and fruit flavored drinks, low calorie
      9258 Fruit juice drinks and fruit flavored drinks, fortified with calcium
   926 Beverages, nonfruit
   928 Nonalcoholic beers, wines, cocktails
   929 Beverage concentrates, dry, not reconstituted

93 Alcoholic beverages
   931 Beers and ales
   932 Cordials and liqueurs
   933 Cocktails
   934 Wines
   935 Distilled liquors

94 Water, noncarbonated
   940 Water, not bottled
   941 Water, bottled
   942 Water, bottled, fortified
   943 Water, baby food

95 Formulated nutrition beverages, energy drinks, sports drinks, functional beverages
   951 Nutrition drinks
   952 Nutrition powders
      9531 Energy drinks
      9532 Sports drinks
      9533 Fluid replacements
      9534 Other functional beverages