Reviewer's report

Title: Results from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2007-2008: High proportions of foods recommended for consumption by the United States Dietary Guidance contain solid fats and added sugar

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Reviewer: Dirce M Marchioni

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Major compulsory revisions

This is a well written manuscript, employing a comprehensive database, WWEIA-NHANES 2007/2008). The background states adequately the problem and the research question, very interesting and clearly defined, is relevant from the public health point of view.

The methods are well described and with sufficient details, however, the analytical choice raises some concerns.

The authors classified all food items into two groups, according to the presence of any amount of SoF or AS. In other words, independently of having just a small proportion or a very large proportion, the food item would be classified as “yes”, inflating the proportion of foods with really relevant impact as contributor for a unhealthy diet.

Although these problems where somewhat discussed, some of the approaches suggested for the authors should be performed, amplifying the meaning of the results found. This would benefit the understanding of the audience. For instance, dividing the food items according to a pre-defined threshold of density, even if there is no recommendation of amount of the SoF and AS.

Also, as pointed for the authors, the recommendations are for the whole diet, so, some kind of analysis that showed the relationship with the diet of a measure of diet quality also would be of interest.

These additions would give a more useful perspective for the findings describe in the manuscript.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below.