

1 **Sources of vegetables, fruits, and vitamins A, C and E among five ethnic groups: Results**
2 **from the Multiethnic Cohort Study**

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17 **Running title:** Fruit and vegetable sources among ethnic groups

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19 **Funding sources:** This research was funded by the National Cancer Institute (grant number R37
20 CA54821), The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-NRI New Investigator Award,
21 grant number 2002-00793) and the American Heart Association of Hawaii (Beginning Grant-in-
22 Aid, grant number 0265287Z).

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24 **Word counts:** Abstract: 237; Text: 3,506

25 **ABSTRACT**

26 **Objectives:** Data are limited on how dietary sources of food and nutrients differ among ethnic
27 groups. The objective of this study was to determine the main sources of fruit, vegetables, and
28 vitamins A, C, and E for five ethnic groups.

29 **Methods:** Dietary data were collected using a validated quantitative food frequency
30 questionnaire from participants in the Multiethnic Cohort in Hawaii and Los Angeles County
31 between 1993 and 1996. Data were analyzed for 186,916 participants representing five ethnic
32 groups; African Americans, Japanese Americans, Native Hawaiians, Latinos, and Caucasians.

33 **Results:** Lettuce was the most consumed vegetable (6.0%-9.9%) in all ethnic-sex groups, except
34 African American women and Mexican-born Latino men and women. Oranges and bananas
35 contributed more than one quarter to total fruit intake among all groups. Overall, more ethnic
36 variation in food choices was observed for the top ten vegetables than fruit. The top sources for
37 vitamins A, C and E were carrots, orange/grapefruit/pomelo and combined dishes, respectively.
38 Between micronutrients studied, the greatest ethnic variation in foods consumed was observed
39 among the top ten food sources of vitamin A.

40 **Conclusions:** This is the first study providing data on the main types of fruit and vegetables
41 consumed and the major sources of vitamins A, C, and E among these ethnic groups in the U.S.
42 Such data are valuable for developing and implementing public health strategies to meet the
43 USDA dietary recommendations and guiding ethnic-specific nutrition education and intervention
44 programs.

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46 **Key words:** Dietary sources, vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin E, ethnicity

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48 INTRODUCTION

49
50 Dietary guidelines from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), American Heart
51 Association (AHA), National Cancer Institute, and American Diabetes Association recommend
52 increasing the consumption of fruit and vegetables within a certain energy intake level to
53 decrease risk for chronic disease (1-5). Previous research from the Multi-Ethnic Cohort (MEC)
54 study found that adherence with these dietary recommendations varied across ethnic groups and
55 energy intake levels, with less than half of participants meeting the minimum requirements
56 among some ethnic-sex groups (6,7). Increasing the intake of antioxidant rich fruit and
57 vegetables while simultaneously limiting energy intake is challenging as many dishes, such as
58 salads and casseroles, may have additional energy-dense ingredients, for example, added sugars,
59 dressings, margarine, or butter. To meet this goal, it is necessary to characterize the sources of
60 fruit, vegetables, and antioxidants.

61
62 Furthermore, substantial evidence suggests that diet is a modifiable risk factor for chronic
63 diseases (8) and improving diet, especially by increasing fruit and vegetable consumption, as
64 well as antioxidant vitamins (A,C,E), could result in a decrease in the incidence and mortality
65 from cardiovascular disease, cancer, and other chronic diseases (9-17). For example, risk of
66 coronary heart disease decreased by 4% and 7% with the daily intake of each additional portion
67 of fruit and vegetable combined and fruit alone, respectively (11). This effect may be due to their
68 antioxidant vitamins A, C and E, which have been shown to decrease the risk of heart disease
69 (17). Cancer, cardiovascular disease and diabetes were responsible for approximately 60% of all
70 deaths in the U.S. in 2005 (18). In addition, rates of these chronic conditions vary by ethnic
71 group. In 2005, age-adjusted cancer mortality rates for men and women, respectively, were 294

72 and 178 for African Americans, 227 and 159 for Caucasians, 153 and 102 for Latinos, and 133
73 and 95 for Asians and Pacific Islanders, per 100,000 population (18). In the same year, age-
74 adjusted mortality rates of heart disease were 330 and 228 for African American, 262 and 170
75 for Caucasians, 192 and 129 for Latinos, and 141 and 92 for Asians and Pacific Islanders per
76 100,000 men and women, respectively (18). With the increasing proportion of ethnic minority
77 groups in the U.S. (19), and growing burden of chronic diseases, there is a need for ethnic-
78 specific health data related to cost-effective interventions such as diet modification.

79
80 To our knowledge, there have been no studies on the intake of antioxidant rich fruit and
81 vegetables among ethnic groups in the U.S. using the USDA standardized food grouping
82 approach and food composition tables. Such data are necessary to show how the consumption of
83 fruit and vegetables vary in different ethnic groups, but are also important in determining which
84 specific fruit, vegetables and nutrients should be targeted when implementing ethnic-specific
85 interventions. A well-balanced diet incorporating all food groups is paramount to optimal health.
86 Data on food sources for the USDA major food groups and of specific nutrients among
87 participants in the MEC is being examined in a series of analyses (20,21). The focus of this study
88 was to determine the main types of fruit and vegetables and the major ten dietary sources of
89 vitamins A, C, and E in five ethnic groups in the U.S.

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93 **METHODS**

94
95 The Multiethnic Cohort (MEC) was established in Hawaii and Los Angeles, California, to
96 investigate lifestyle exposures in relation to disease outcomes. Study design, recruitment
97 procedures, and baseline characteristics have been reported elsewhere (22). In brief, 201,257
98 men and women aged 45 to 75 years representing five ethnic groups (African Americans
99 (AfAm), Japanese Americans (JpAm), Native Hawaiians (NH), Latinos (born in Mexico and
100 Central/South America: Latino-Mexico; born in the U.S.: Latino-US), and Caucasians) were
101 enrolled into the study between 1993 and 1996. Ethnicity was self-defined. Response rates varied
102 from 20% in Latinos to 49% in JpAm.

103

104 Data were collected using a self-administered, mailed questionnaire including a 17-page
105 quantitative food frequency questionnaire (QFFQ) which collected data on consumption of 180
106 food items over the past year (22). The QFFQ was based on a modified version of an extensively
107 used interview method that was validated in multiethnic populations (23). The self-administered
108 version used in this study was developed using three-day measured dietary records from 60 men
109 and 60 women of each of the five ethnic groups. Ethnic-specific foods (35 items) were also
110 included irrespective of their contribution to the diet. The QFFQ inquired about the amount of
111 food consumed based on a choice of three portion sizes specific to each food item listed, which
112 were also shown in representative photographs, and the usual intake frequency based on the
113 categories ranging from ‘never or hardly ever’ to ‘two or more times a day.’ A substudy was
114 conducted to validate and calibrate the QFFQ using three repeated 24-hour dietary recalls
115 collected in each ethnic-sex group (23). Average correlation coefficients for all nutrients ranged

116 from 0.57 in Caucasian men to 0.26 in AfAm women. For nutrient densities, average correlations
117 were about twice as high, with a range from 0.74 to 0.57 across ethnic-sex strata.

118
119 For the current analyses, those with extreme energy intake (< 500 kcal/day or > 5000 kcal/day;
120 4% of respondents) were excluded. Latino-Mexico (i.e., born in Mexico or Central/South
121 America) (n=21,083) were separated from Latino-US (i.e., born in the U.S.) (n=21,868); Latinos
122 born in the Caribbean were also excluded due to the small number of participants. The
123 exclusions across the ethnic groups were; 3,255 (9.3%) AfAm, 342 (2.4%) NH, 5,673 (10.0%)
124 JpAm, 4,487 (9.5%) Latino, and 2,123 (4.3%) Caucasians, leaving a total of 186,916 participants
125 in this analysis.

126
127 The standardized food grouping scheme developed by the USDA was applied to our data for
128 quantifying intakes in terms of servings (24). All food items were categorized into the five food
129 groups and their corresponding subgroups: vegetables (dark green, deep yellow, potato, starchy,
130 tomato, other vegetables), fruit (citrus, melons and berries, other fruits), meat and meat
131 alternatives (all meat, fish and poultry, organ meat, frankfurter/sausage/lunch meats, poultry,
132 egg, nuts, dry beans and peas), grains (whole grain, non-whole grain), and dairy products (milk,
133 yogurt, cheese). One serving of vegetable was ½ cup raw or cooked vegetable, 1 cup raw leafy
134 vegetable, or ½ cup vegetable juice (2). The percent contribution of each food item to total
135 consumption of vegetables, fruits, vitamins A, C and E was also determined. Because mixed
136 dishes have been shown to be an important source of vegetables and fruit (25), all mixed dishes
137 were disaggregated into their component parts and allocated to servings of each food group.
138 Total serving intakes for fruit and vegetables were computed for each individual by summing the

139 servings across the appropriate food items on the QFFQ. The mean daily serving intakes of fruit
140 and vegetables among the five ethnic groups in the MEC have been previously reported (6,7).
141 Nutrient intakes were analyzed based on a unique food composition table which was extended
142 and adapted from USDA food composition database (26). Graphical presentations were prepared
143 using Stata (StataCorp. 2003. *Stata Statistical Software: Release 8*. College Station, TX:
144 StataCorp LP.). The study protocol was approved by the Institutional Review Boards of the
145 University of Hawaii and the University of Southern California.

146

147

148 **RESULTS**

149 Demographic information for the 186,916 participants included in this study is presented in
150 Table 1. Mean ages for men ranged from 57 years (NH) to 62 years (AfAm) across the five
151 ethnic groups; for women, mean ages were from 56 years (NH) to 61 years (AfAm and JpAm).
152 NH men and women had the highest mean daily energy intake (2,760 kcal and 2,370 kcal,
153 respectively), while NH men and AfAm women had the highest average body mass index (28.5
154 kg/m² and 28.4 kg/m², respectively) among all groups. There was more variation in daily fruit
155 and vegetable intake between ethnic groups than between men and women. The average number
156 of servings for vegetable intake was highest among Native Hawaiians and Latino-Mexicans, and
157 lowest among African Americans. For both sexes, the average fruit intake was comparable
158 among most ethnic groups, but was slightly higher among the Latino-Mexicans. Adherence with
159 dietary recommendations for vegetable intake ranged from 43% (AfAm) to 62% (Latino-
160 Mexico) among men, and from 51% (AfAm) to 69% (NH) among women. In each sex group,
161 NH men and women had the lowest adherence levels with fruit intake recommendations (36%

162 and 48%, respectively), while Latino-Mexican men and women exhibited the highest levels of
163 adherence (54% and 66%, respectively). Adherence with dietary recommendations for both
164 vegetable and fruit intake was higher among women in all cases when compared within the same
165 ethnic group.

166
167 Lettuce (dark and light green), the greatest contributor to total vegetable intake across all ethnic
168 groups except Latino-Mexico, accounted for combined 9.7% (AfAm men) to 19.0% (JpAm
169 women) of total intake (Figure 1). The largest ethnic variation in percent contribution to
170 vegetable intake was for lettuce. The percent contribution to vegetable intake for other
171 commonly consumed foods (carrots, tomatoes, broccoli) was more consistent, ranging by only
172 2% to 3% across ethnic groups. Among Latino-Mexico men and women, tomato/vegetable soup
173 was a greater contributor compared to other ethnic groups. Latino-Mexican men were also the
174 only group for whom dried bean/pea soups and Mexican meat soup/stews were top contributors.
175 Stir fries and cabbage were among the top 10 contributors for JpAm of both sexes, while poi
176 (fermented taro root) was among the top 10 for NH only (5.0% each for NH men and women).
177 Dark leafy greens were among the top 10 for only three ethnic groups; JpAm, NH and AfAm,
178 and the pattern of percent contribution for this food item was similar for both sexes in each of
179 these ethnic groups. Starchy vegetables (e.g., carrots and corn) and potatoes were top sources of
180 vegetables across most ethnic-sex groups, especially among Caucasian women, Caucasian men
181 and AfAm men for whom baked/boiled white potatoes alone contributed 4.8%, 4.6% and 4.0%,
182 respectively, to total intake. Chili and olives were among the top sources only for Latino-Mexico
183 men and Latino-US men and women. Deep yellow vegetables contributed less than 11% to total
184 vegetable intake across all ethnic-sex groups. Dark green vegetables varied in their rank as top

185 source between ethnic groups, with Latino groups (Latino-Mexico and Latino-US) reporting the
186 least and JpAm and Caucasians the most (6.3%-22.6%).

187

188 The top ten sources of fruits contributed up to 85% (AfAm) to total fruit intake for all ethnic
189 groups (Figure 2). Among the top three major sources of fruits across all ethnic-sex groups,
190 oranges and bananas accounted for more than one quarter (26.4-32.9%) of total fruit consumed.
191 Tangerines/mandarin oranges were also an important contributor for all groups, except
192 Caucasian women. Fruit juice (i.e., orange/grapefruit juice and other fruit juice/drinks)
193 contributed the most to NH men and women at 18.4% and 16.0% of total fruit intake and the
194 least to Latino-Mexico men and women at 8.7% and 7.7%, respectively. Mangos were among the
195 top 10 fruit sources for JpAm and NH only (of both sexes); papaya was also a major contributor
196 to these two ethnic groups as well as Caucasians. Pears were among the top 10 for men and
197 women in both Latino groups, as well as African American men.

198

199 The percent contribution for the main sources of Vitamin A was relatively consistent across
200 ethnic groups (Figure 2). Carrots were the primary source of vitamin A, accounting for 17.0-
201 34.5% of total intake across all ethnic-sex groups. Cereals and dark greens were also among the
202 major sources of vitamin A for all groups, except Latino-Mexico men and women for whom dark
203 greens contributed 4.0% and 3.7%, respectively. Combined meat-vegetable dishes were among
204 the top contributors to vitamin A among all groups, except Latino-Mexico women. Of all the
205 ethnic-sex groups, fruit and vegetables sources of vitamin A contributed the least to Latino-
206 Mexico men (35.9%) and most to JpAm women (60.8%).

207

208 Orange/grapefruit/pomelo contributed from 25.1% (Latino-Mexico women) to 34.1% (AfAm
209 men) to total vitamin C intake for all ethnic-sex groups (Figure 3). Tropical fruits were also an
210 important source of vitamin C across all groups, especially for JpAm men and women (15.7%
211 and 17.9%, respectively). Fruit juice was a top-five source of vitamin C for all groups, percent
212 contribution ranged from 7.6% and 7.0% for Caucasian men and women, respectively, to 10.8%
213 and 9.9% for NH men and women, respectively. Broccoli/cauliflower was the greatest vegetable
214 source of vitamin C for all ethnic-sex groups, contributing the least among NH and the most
215 among AfAm and Caucasians. Salsa was among the top 10 vitamin C contributors for Latino-
216 Mexicans only, while cabbage/coleslaw was included in the top 10 for JpAm only.

217

218 Accounting for 10.2% (Latino-Mexico men) to 23.7% (Latino-Mexico women) of total intake,
219 cereals emerged as the top source of vitamin E across all ethnic-sex groups (Figure 5). Fruit and
220 vegetable sources provided less than 13% of total vitamin E intake for all groups. Highest
221 percentage contribution was observed among JpAm men and women, for whom fruits and
222 vegetables contributed 9.1% and 12.7% of vitamin E; by comparison, Latino-US men and
223 women who had the lowest contribution from fruits and vegetables at 3.2% and 6.1%,
224 respectively (data not shown). Peanuts/other nuts were a major source of vitamin E for all groups
225 except Latino-Mexico. Other sources were less variable across ethnic-sex groups and include
226 regular salad dressing, fish and chicken/turkey. Several food items appeared in the top 10
227 vitamin E sources for Latino-Mexicans only, including crackers/chips/popcorn, taco salad, and
228 sweets (muffins/doughnuts, cookies/cake, tarts/pies).

229

230 **DISCUSSION**

231 The percentage of the U.S. population from non-Caucasian ethnic backgrounds is increasing (27,
232 28). Ethnic minority groups in the U.S. are experiencing a change from their traditional diet to a
233 more “westernized” diet (29). Previous studies showed lower than recommended intakes of fruit
234 and vegetables among the Multiethnic Cohort population (6,7), and up to 73% of this population
235 did not meet the recommendation for vitamin E intake (30). The percentage of the MEC
236 population meeting the reference levels for vitamin C and A intake was relatively high
237 (approximately 90%) among supplement users, but among the majority who were not taking
238 supplements (77%), the proportion of participants meeting nutrient adequacy for vitamins A and
239 C was considerably lower (64% and 77%, respectively) (30). High antioxidant intake has
240 consistently been linked to reduced cancer risk and longitudinal analyses, which included
241 adjustment for energy intake, have demonstrated that MEC participants with higher dietary
242 intake of fruits and vegetables have lower cancer mortality rates (31). Regarding nutrient
243 intake, a study examining racial differences in dietary intake of antioxidant nutrients (vitamin C,
244 vitamin E and carotenoids) found that African-Americans reported lower intakes of most
245 antioxidants, and also had lower plasma antioxidant concentrations of vitamin E and carotenoids
246 suggesting that these findings may be contributing factors to the disproportionately higher risk of
247 cancer among African-Americans (32). Fruit and vegetables were the main dietary sources of
248 vitamins A, C, and E for each ethnic group in this study. These results allow us to identify, target
249 and promote specific antioxidant-rich fruit and vegetables which are most preferred by different
250 ethnic populations.

251

252 Of interest, very few dishes identified as the top sources for vegetable and fruit intake were
253 found among the top dishes for energy intake reported in previous MEC findings (20). Only
254 pasta dishes with tomato/cheese sauce, stir fried meat and vegetables, orange/grapefruit/pomelo,
255 and bananas were listed among the top ten food sources of energy intake, and the contribution of
256 these foods/dishes to total energy (reported in the previous study) was relatively small in all
257 cases ($\leq 5\%$). These findings suggest that fruits and vegetables are not frequently incorporated
258 into dishes contributing to energy intake. Thus, dietary interventions to promote addition of
259 healthy fruits and vegetables into dishes that contribute more to energy intake among all ethnic
260 groups, such as meat dishes (20), may serve to address deficiencies observed in recommended
261 intake levels.

262

263 The dietary guidelines of ADA, USDA, NCI and AHA are created to help the U.S. population
264 make healthful food choices to improve dietary adequacy and reduce the risk of chronic disease
265 (1-5). For example, the USDA Dietary Guidelines recommend eating more than five servings of
266 fruit and vegetables per day. However, these guidelines need to consider the ethnic-specific
267 preferences in food consumption to make culturally appropriate recommendations. The results
268 from this study indicate that sources of fruits, vegetables, and nutrients can vary across ethnic
269 groups, but are very comparable for sexes within the ethnic groups. For the main sources of fruits
270 and vegetables, the ethnic variation in percent contribution was most apparent for vegetable
271 intake. As expected, some ethnic preferences for specific foods were also identified based on the
272 top 10 food sources for vegetables and fruits. For example, tomato/vegetable soup was the top
273 source of vegetable intake among Latino-Mex men, starchy vegetables were the top source
274 among AfAm, and cabbage and stir fries appeared frequently for the JpAm group. The dietary

275 sources of vegetable consumption also differed among Latinos by birthplace, and the results
276 suggest that there are some ethnic-specific preferences for fruit intake. The observation of
277 several high energy food sources for Vitamin E intake among Latino-Mexicans also indicates
278 that some ethnic groups may be susceptible to poorer food choices. Knowledge of such food
279 choices could provide clinicians with an effective means to improve adherence with dietary
280 recommendations by promoting specific preferred foods among ethnic groups and facilitate
281 tailoring of dietary interventions. These findings demonstrate a need for dietitians, nutrition
282 researchers and educators to incorporate the cultural identities and culinary customs into ethnic-
283 specific public health messages when promoting fruit and vegetable consumption.

284

285 There are several strengths of this study. It is the first study comparing dietary sources of fruit,
286 vegetable and vitamins A, C, and E among these specific ethnic groups in the U.S; the MEC
287 includes a large representative sample size of each of these five ethnic groups. Although
288 NHANES III had a large sample of AfAms and Latinos born in Mexico (33), it did not include
289 NH or JpAm. The Continuing Surveys of Food Intakes by Individuals (CSFII) 1994-96 collected
290 dietary intake data from 16,103 adults (34), which included AfAm and Latinos; however, the
291 samples of these two populations were relatively small. A validated QFFQ developed
292 specifically for the multiethnic population was used to ensure standardized data collection among
293 the five ethnic groups. Furthermore, a standard method for grouping fruit and vegetables for all
294 ethnic groups based on national recommendations was used (35). Lastly, the disaggregation of
295 composite dishes into their respective fruit and vegetable components allowed a precise
296 assessment of fruit and vegetable intake between groups (24). O'Brien *et al.* (2003) reported that
297 failure to include composite foods when estimating fruit and vegetable intake may result in bias

298 (25). Certain ethnic groups in the current study, such as Latinos, consumed vegetables mostly as
299 part of soups, and, therefore, exclusion of these composite dishes would underestimate overall
300 intake for this ethnic group.

301
302 Several potential limitations also warrant discussion. Recall bias may have impacted the results if
303 specific foods were preferentially documented during collection of the baseline dietary data for
304 the MEC study. Measurement error may also be a concern if certain foods were not captured on
305 the QFFQ, or due to inaccuracies in recording of portion sizes. Previous findings also indicate
306 that the validity of FFQs is higher among women (36), or could vary by food group (37), and
307 thus it is possible that ethnicity influenced reporting. Although the results from calibration study
308 were similar across ethnic groups and the QFFQ used in the MEC appears to capture total intake
309 relatively well (22,23), alternative methods such as food diaries, 24-hour dietary recalls, or
310 addition of open-ended responses for food choices on the questionnaire may have reduced the
311 likelihood of these potential biases. In addition, there were a relatively large number of
312 exclusions due to missing data, and the proportion of excluded participants did vary somewhat
313 for across ethnic groups, ranging from 2.4% among NH participants to 10% for the JpAm group.
314 Although it is possible these differences in response rates may have introduced selection bias,
315 with the large sample sizes that were still maintained in these analyses, considerable dietary
316 variation would have had to occurred in order to have influenced the results. Variation in food
317 consumption patterns may also have been diminished as a result of the availability of ethnic food
318 choices to all of the U.S. population, as well as westernization of diets for persons from the
319 various ethnic backgrounds. As the data for this study was collected over 15 years ago, more
320 recent data would be useful to determine if the dietary patterns observed in this study are

321 generalizable to the current population and if the consumption patterns of various ethnic groups
322 have changed over time.

323

324 **CONCLUSION**

325 We have provided for the first time comparable data on the dietary sources of fruit, vegetables,
326 antioxidant vitamins A, C and E in a large representative sample of five ethnic groups using a
327 standardized grouping approach. Such data are valuable for developing and implementing public
328 health strategies to meet the national dietary recommendation, as well as guiding nutrition
329 education and intervention programs to reduce risk of cancer and other chronic diseases in these
330 high-risk populations.

331

332 **Acknowledgements**

333 We thank Thomas Brown for his assistance with data analysis. Thanks also to Ms. Jennifer
334 Ruehl for assisting with the writing of the manuscript. Finally we are grateful to Ms. Eva Erber,
335 Dr. Mohammadreza Pakseresht, and Dr. Sara Schaefer for reviewing and editing the manuscript.

336

337 **Conflict of Interest:** The authors have no competing interests to declare.

338

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- 440

441 **Figure Legends**

442

443 Figure 1. Ten major sources of vegetables and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and
444 ethnicity

- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 445 ○ | African American | ▲ | Caucasian |
| 446 + | Japanese American | □ | Latino-Mexico |
| 447 ◆ | Latino-US | ✕ | Native Hawaiian |

448

449 Figure 2. Ten major sources of fruits and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and
450 ethnicity

- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 451 ○ | African American | ▲ | Caucasian |
| 452 + | Japanese American | □ | Latino-Mexico |
| 453 ◆ | Latino-US | ✕ | Native Hawaiian |

454

455

456 Figure 3. Ten major sources of Vitamin A and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and
457 ethnicity

- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 458 ○ | African American | ▲ | Caucasian |
| 459 + | Japanese American | □ | Latino-Mexico |
| 460 ◆ | Latino-US | ✕ | Native Hawaiian |

461

462

463 Figure 4. Ten major sources of Vitamin C and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and
464 ethnicity

- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 465 ○ | African American | ▲ | Caucasian |
| 466 + | Japanese American | □ | Latino-Mexico |
| 467 ◆ | Latino-US | ✕ | Native Hawaiian |

468

469

470 Figure 5. Ten major sources of Vitamin E and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and
471 ethnicity

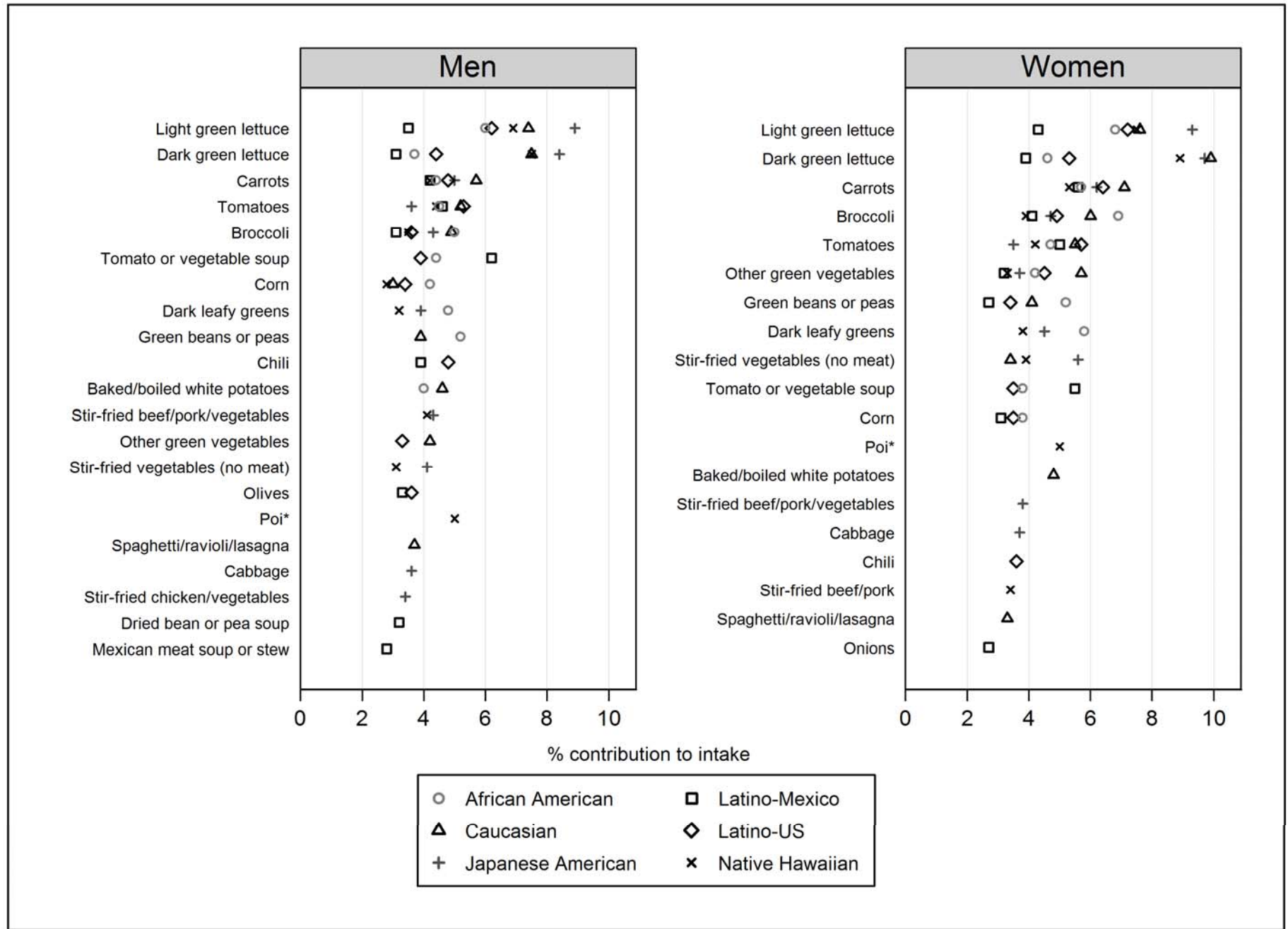
- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| 472 ○ | African American | ▲ | Caucasian |
| 473 + | Japanese American | □ | Latino-Mexico |
| 474 ◆ | Latino-US | ✕ | Native Hawaiian |

Table 1. Demographic information of the participants

	African American	Native Hawaiian	Japanese American	Latinos-Mexico	Latinos-US	Caucasian
Men						
Number (n)	11,722	5,979	25,893	10,180	10,613	21,933
Age (years)	62 ± 8.9	57 ± 8.7	61 ± 9.2	59 ± 7.7	61 ± 7.6	59 ± 9.1
Body Mass Index (kg/m ²)	26.7 ± 4.3	28.5 ± 5.1	24.7 ± 3.3	26.7 ± 3.7	26.7 ± 4.1	26.0 ± 4.0
Energy (kcal)	2,194 ± 1,166	2,760 ± 1,311	2,255 ± 833	2,716 ± 1,401	2,468 ± 1,261	2,283 ± 899
Vegetable Intake*	4.0 ± 2.9	5.5 ± 3.9	4.6 ± 2.8	5.6 ± 3.9	4.4 ± 3.0	4.7 ± 2.8
Fruit Intake*	3.2 ± 3.2	3.2 ± 3.2	2.8 ± 2.5	4.2 ± 4.0	3.4 ± 3.4	3.1 ± 2.6
% Adherent - Vegetables*	43	61	58	62	49	61
% Adherent – Fruit*	46	36	37	54	47	41
Women						
Number (n)	20,130	7,650	25,355	10,903	11,255	25,303
Age (years)	61 ± 9.0	56 ± 8.7	61 ± 8.9	58 ± 7.6	60 ± 7.9	59 ± 9.0
Body Mass Index (kg/m ²)	28.4 ± 5.8	28.0 ± 6.1	23.1 ± 3.8	27.0 ± 4.8	27.6 ± 5.4	25.2 ± 5.2
Energy (kcal)	1,879 ± 993	2,370 ± 1,263	1,808 ± 678	2,316 ± 1,238	2,056 ± 1,104	1,805 ± 703
Vegetable Intake*	4.2 ± 3.1	5.9 ± 4.4	4.7 ± 2.8	5.7 ± 4.2	4.4 ± 3.2	4.7 ± 2.9
Fruit Intake*	3.7 ± 3.6	3.9 ± 4.0	3.5 ± 2.8	4.9 ± 4.4	3.8 ± 3.7	3.3 ± 2.7
% Adherent - Vegetables*	51	69	66	68	55	65
% Adherent – Fruit*	58	48	54	66	57	52

* The Food Guide Pyramid recommendations are based on daily energy intake: <1,600 kcal, 1,601-2,200 kcal, 2,201-2,800 kcal, and >2,800 kcal per day are 3, 3, 4, and 5 servings per day for vegetables; 2, 3, 3, and 4 servings per day for fruit, respectively; ‘% Adherent’ refers the proportion meeting these recommendations for each ethnic-sex group.

Figure 1. Ten major sources of vegetables and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and ethnicity



*poi: fermented taro root

Figure 2. Ten major sources of fruits and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and ethnicity

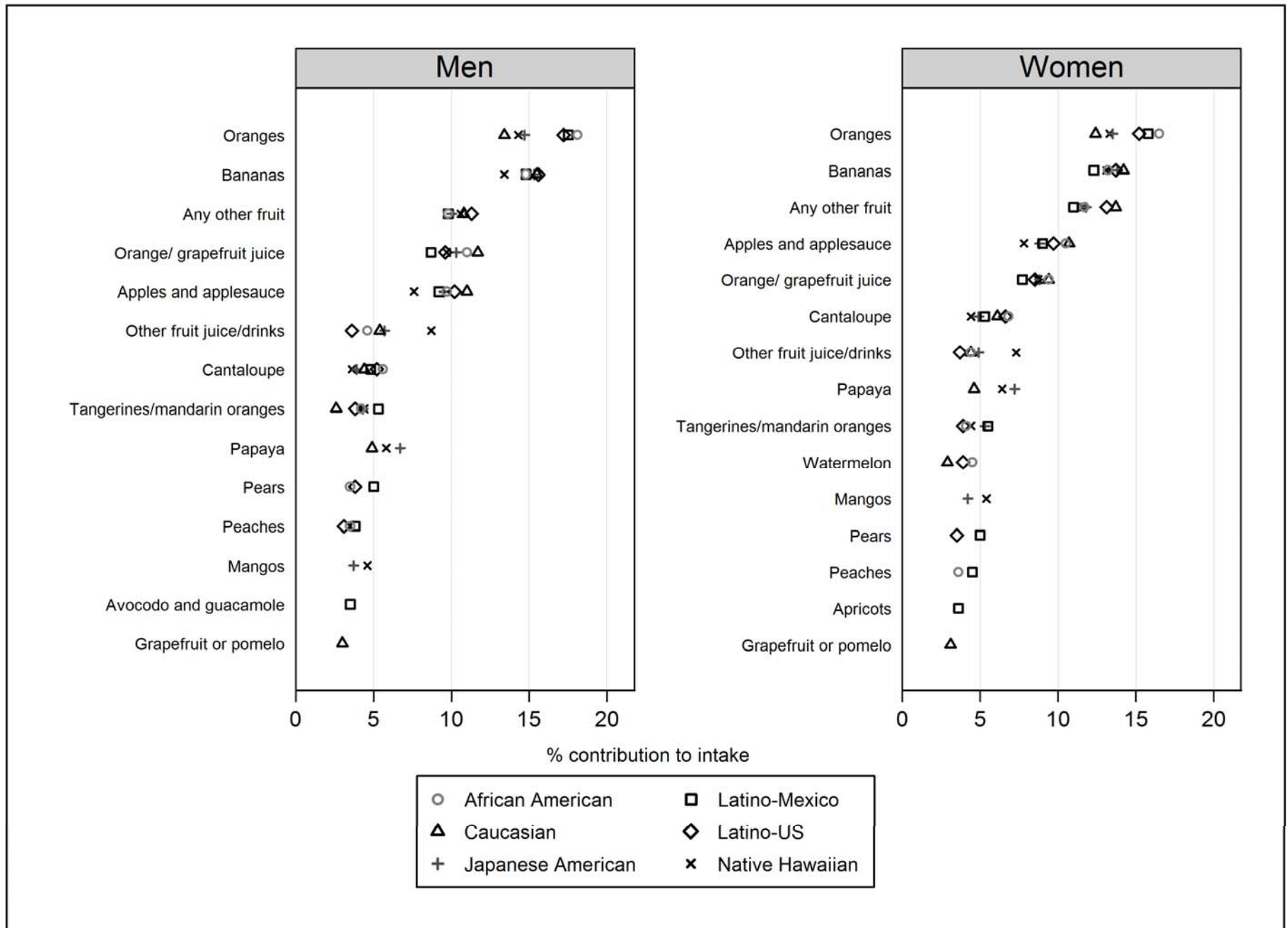
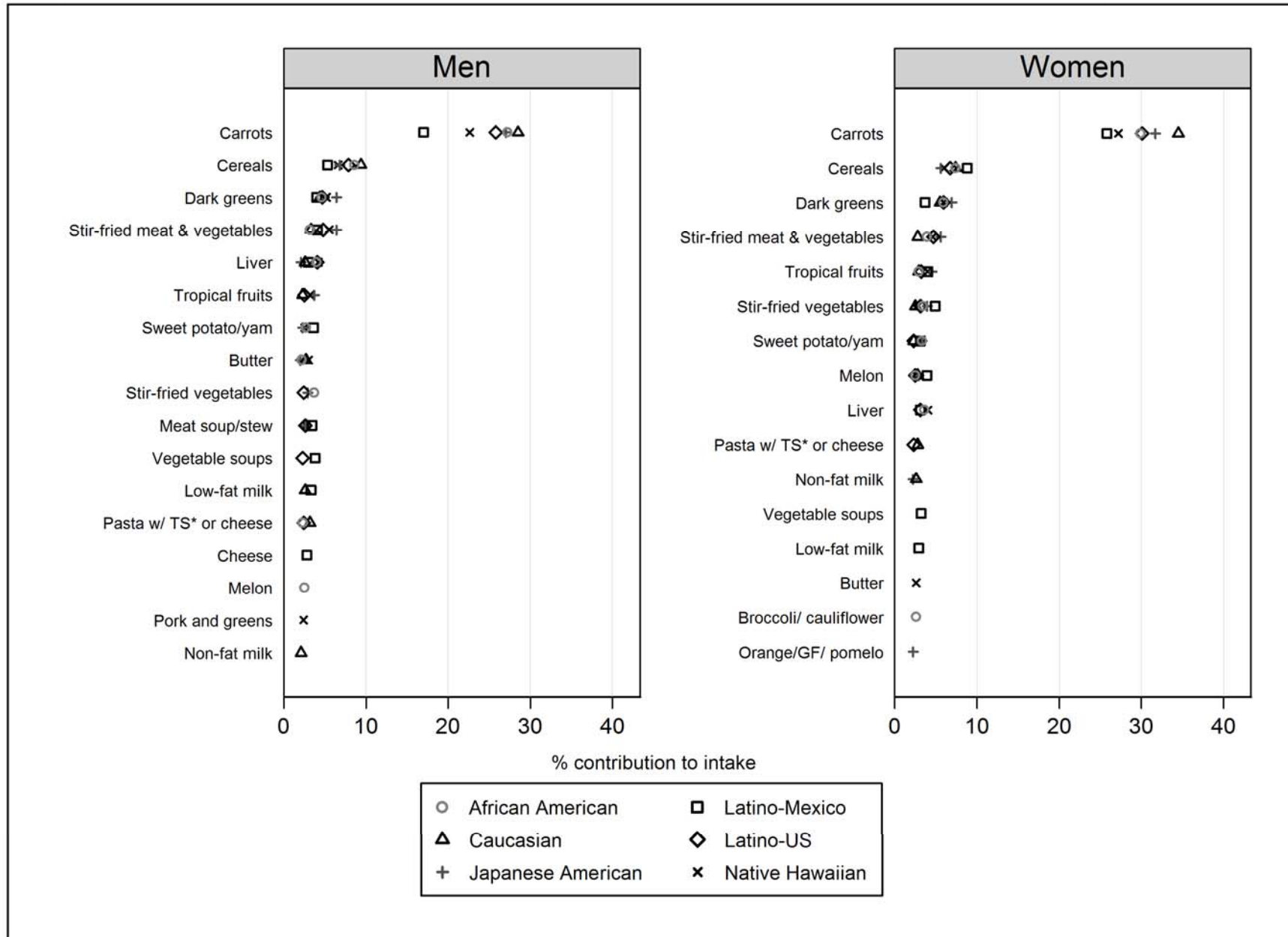
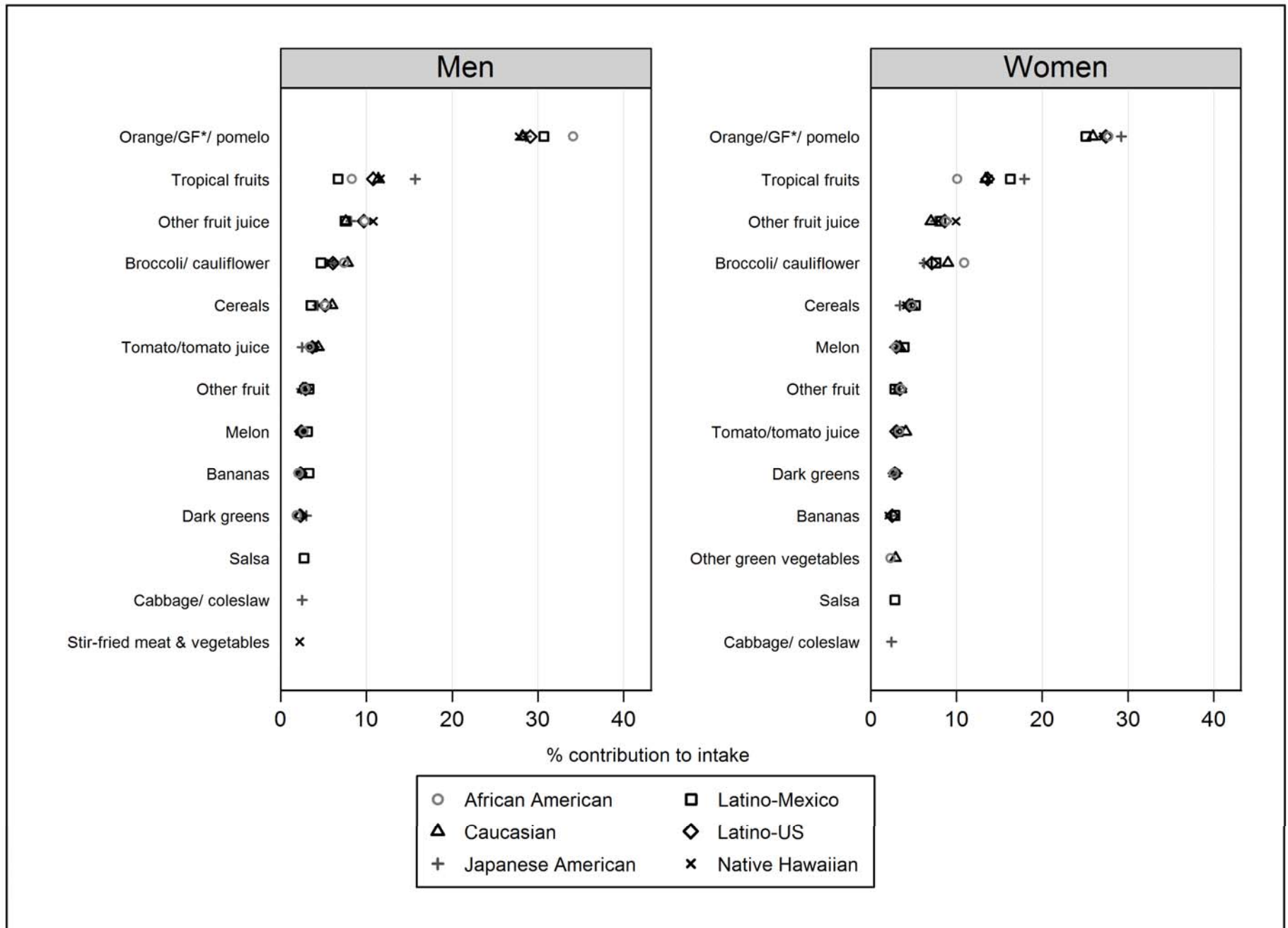


Figure 3. Ten major sources of Vitamin A and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and ethnicity



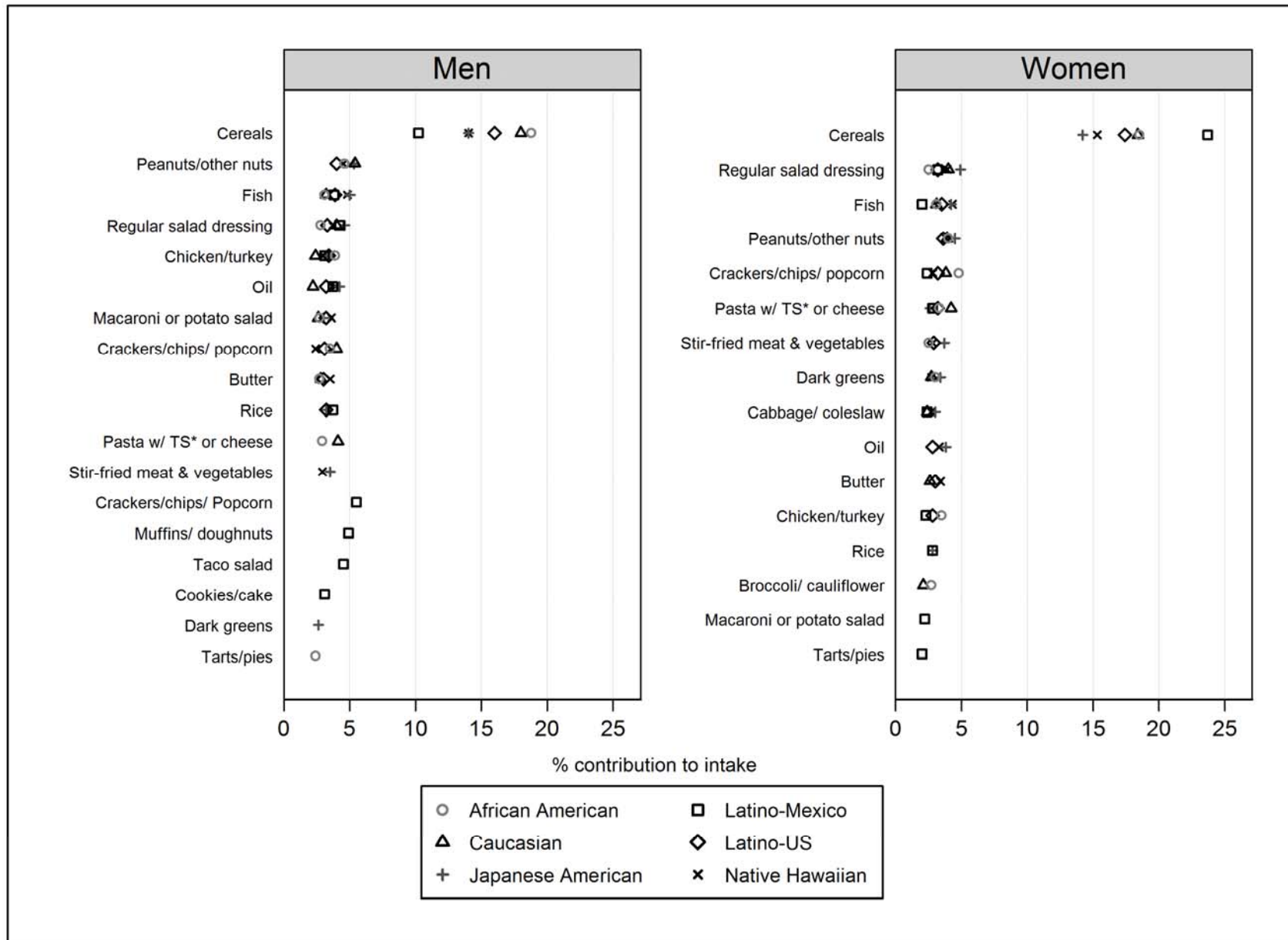
*TS: Tomato sauce

Figure 4. Ten major sources of Vitamin C and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and ethnicity



*GF: Grapefruit

Figure 5. Ten major sources of Vitamin E and the percent contribution of each item, by sex and ethnicity



*TS: Tomato sauce