

Introduction to the Fish Consumption Survey of the Umatilla, Nez Perce, Yakama and Warm Springs Tribes of the Columbia River Basin

Why Study Was Conducted

- To study tribal member's
 - Fish consumption rates
 - Habits and preparation methods
 - Tribal fish species caught and consumed in the Columbia Basin
- Test whether national FCR used by EPA might not be applicable to tribal members

Why Study Was Conducted

- Expectation was that federal and state agencies would incorporate this information when evaluating human health based water quality criteria for toxics.

EPA consumption data hierarchy

1. Surveys of local watersheds within the state
2. Data from similar geography and population groups (neighboring state or tribe)
3. Intake rate assumptions from national food consumption surveys
4. Default rates (17.5 g/day general adult population)

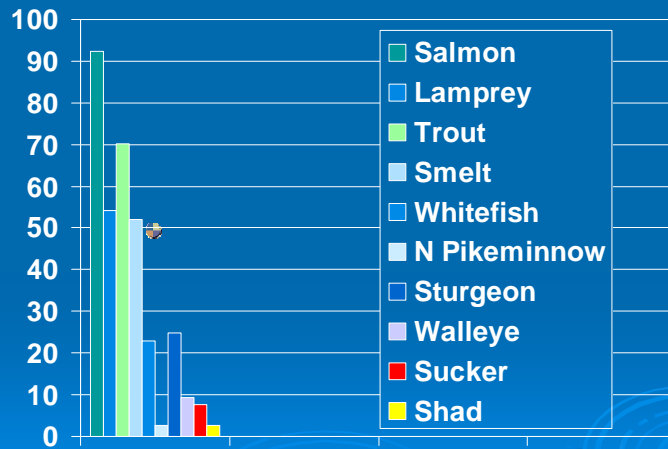
What did we learn about tribal fish consumption?

- 88% of fish from fishing, family, friends, ceremonies or tribal distributions
(non-grocery store sources)
- 93.3% of tribal members attend ceremonies or traditional events.
 - Over half of these attend ceremonies 1 - 3 times a month.

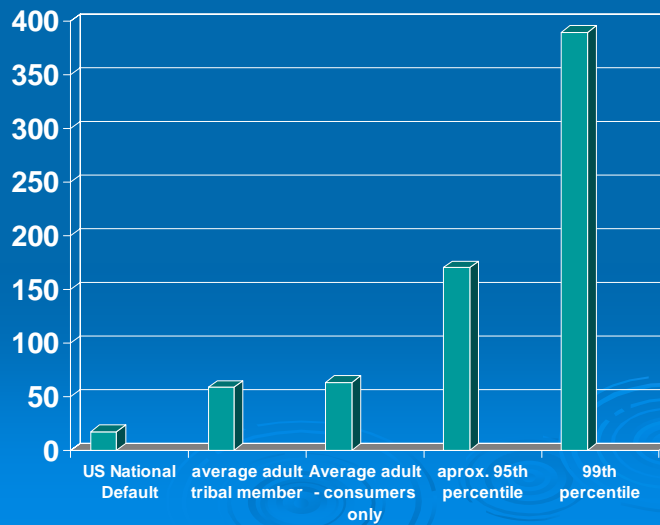
Fish species important for tribal consumption

- Salmon
- Lamprey
- Trout
- Smelt
- Whitefish
- Sturgeon
- Walleye
- Northern Pike Minnow
- Sucker
- Shad

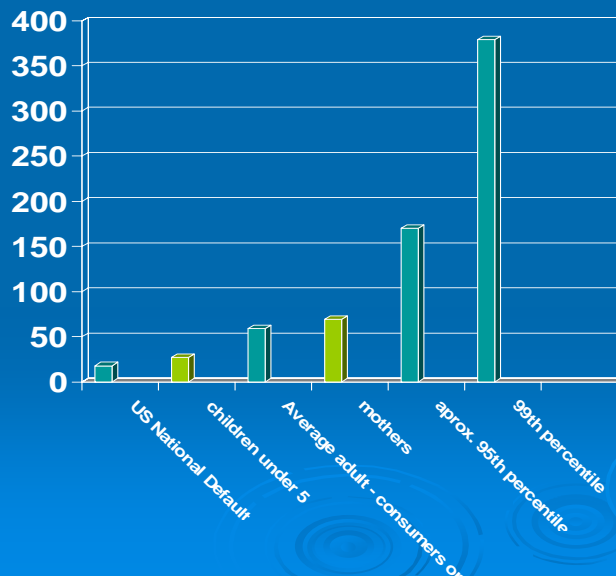
Percent of tribal members who consume species



Study Fish Consumption Findings



Fish Consumption Findings



Children

- 9.7 months – mean age at first fish meal.
- Fish is a first food.

Traditional fish consumption

➤ 50 % of women

➤ 80% of elders

➤ 40% of children

Eat non-fillet fish
parts