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INSTITUTO PARA OS  
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# 2017 Report on Results of Lunar New Year Food

Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau

Food Safety Centre

2017



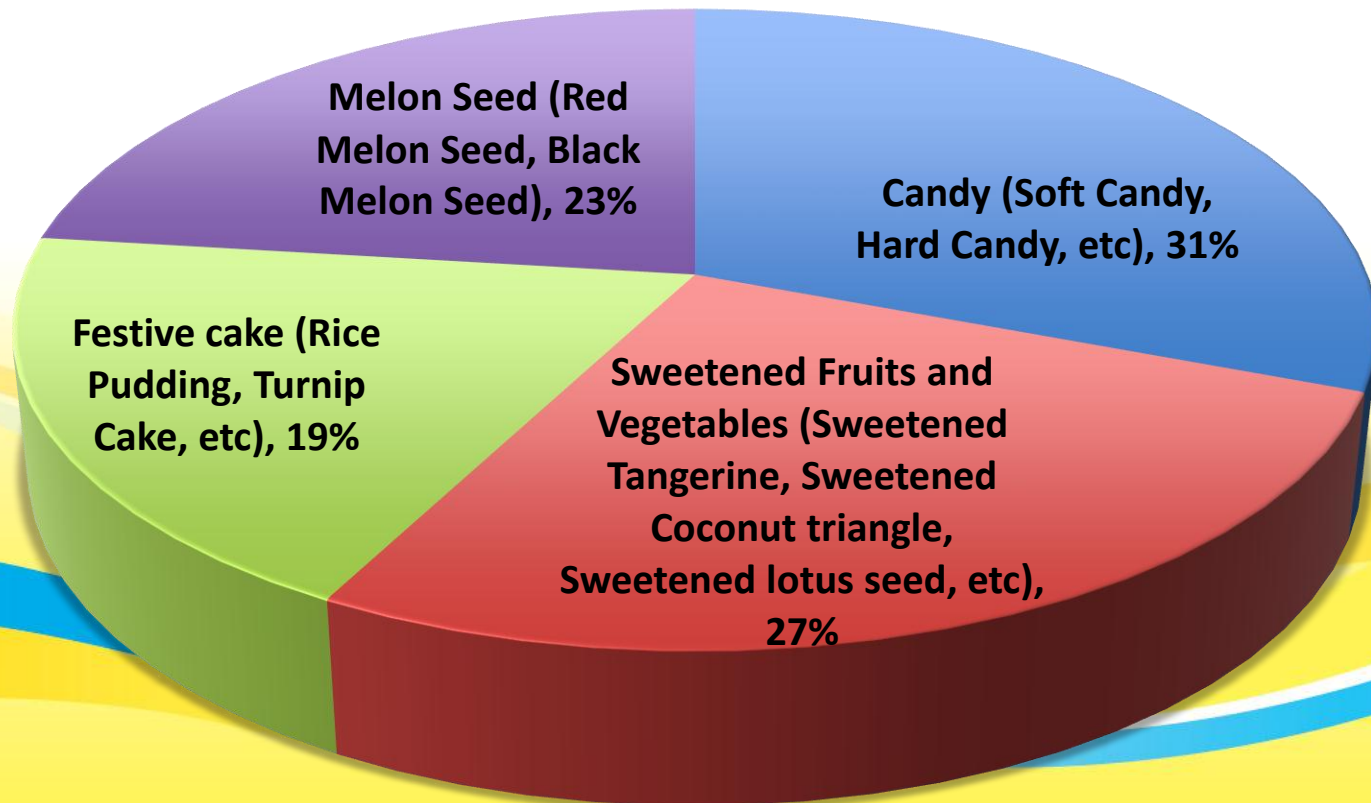
# Background

- With the Lunar New Year just around the corner, the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM), the Health Bureau (SSM), and the Consumer Council (CC) cooperated to collect samples for seasonal food surveillance on Lunar New Year festival foods.
- The Lunar New Year foods, which included sweetened fruits and vegetables, candies, melon seeds and festive cakes, were collected from retail outlets in Macao.
- A total of 130 samples of Lunar New Year Foods were collected for microbiological and chemical tests.
- All tested samples were satisfactory. The overall satisfactory rate was 100%.



# Types of samples

Collected a total of 130 samples of LNY food from retail outlets in Macao. The types of foods included sweetened fruits and vegetables, candies, melon seeds and festive cakes.



# Types of test

- **Microbiological analysis :**
  - Pathogen  
(*E. Coli*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella*)
- **Chemical Analysis :**
  - Preservatives (e.g. sulphur dioxide, benzoic acid, sorbic acid)
  - Coloring matters
  - Mineral oil



# Test Results

- All tested samples were satisfactory. The overall satisfactory rate was 100%.
- Some Lunar New Year foods are high in calories, fat and sugar. Avoid excessive eating of Lunar New Year foods.
- The public should maintain a balance diet.






# Advice for trade

- Purchase festive foods and ingredients from reputable suppliers. Do not buy food from unknown sources.
- Wrap festive foods and ingredients properly, and store at appropriate temperatures.
- Check all the raw materials before using. Discard any raw materials that have deteriorated or having unusual appearance/smell.
- Keep all the purchase and sale records for source-tracing when necessary.
- Do not purchase or sell any food products if there is any doubt about its hygiene and safety.



# Advice for consumers

- Buy Lunar New Year foods from reputable and hygiene stores.
  - When buying pre-packaged products, make sure the packages are intact and mind the expiry dates.
  - When buying non-packaged products such as sweetened lotus seed, nuts and melon seeds, pay attention to hygienic condition of food containers and personal hygiene of staff.
  - Choose foods with natural color. Do not purchase foods which look too colorful or too bright as excessive amount of artificial colors or food additives may have been added.
  - Before eating, check the food carefully. If abnormal smell or moulds are found, discard the food immediately.
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Safe food. Safe Consumption

