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## Fact Sheet

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# Tailgating

Tailgating dates back to 1869, with the very first college football game, Rutgers versus Princeton. Fans traveled to the game by carriage, grilling sausages and hamburgers at the “tail end” of the horse. (tailgating.com)

Ninety-five percent of tailgaters agree that food is an important part of the experience and 90 percent of Americans say they like to eat some sort of snack while watching sports in general. (*Taylor Nelson Sofres Intersearch and H. J. Heinz Company*)

According to sportslore.com, the advanced tailgater prepares for six to eight hours of eating and drinking. And, tailgating.com reports that tailgating food is becoming more diversified and sophisticated.

The Ohio State University is considered the fifth top tailgating school in the country according to Joe Drozda, author of *The Tailgater's Handbook*.

The American Tailgaters Association estimates 27 million fans tailgate annually.

According to a tailgating.com survey, 41 percent of tailgaters spend over \$500 a season on food and supplies.

A study a John Hopkins University showed that if the rate of obesity and overweight continues at the current pace, 75 percent of adults will be overweight and 41 percent will be obese by 2015 (John Hopkins University, July 2007.).

2004 statistics for the United States show that coronary heart disease (CHD) is the single leading cause of death in America (National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey).