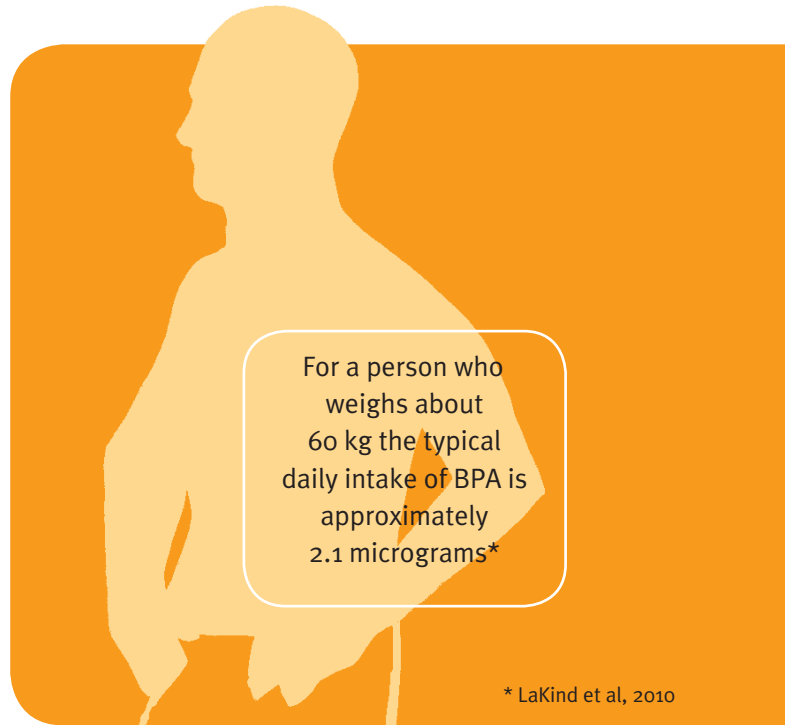


How much BPA does a typical person take in through a normal diet?

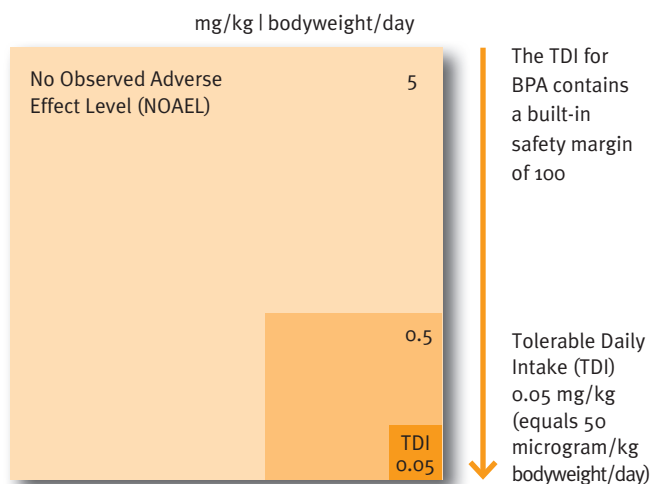
Bisphenol A (BPA) has been approved for use as monomer for the production of plastics articles in food contact such as polycarbonate and epoxy resin since 1990. Epoxy resins are widely used in food can linings to extend shelf life and protect food from contamination and spoilage. The European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) current assessment is that BPA is safe for consumers at the very low levels that they might be exposed to through some foods.



How safe is safe? Very safe – because of a built-in safety margin

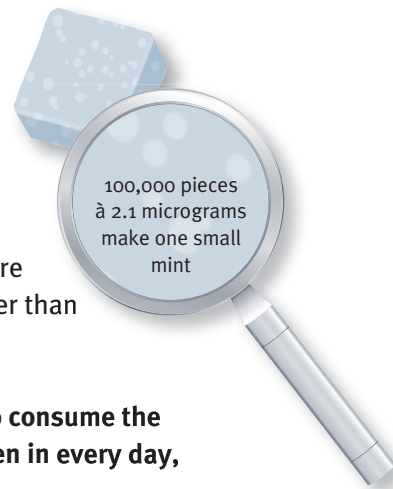
Based on the No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) applied by EFSA, an additional safety factor of 100 is applied, to account for any potential uncertainties. Thus, the safety level of Bisphenol A, the so called Tolerable Daily Intake (TDI), has been defined at 50 microgram/kg bodyweight/day.

For a 60 kg person this corresponds to an intake of 3000 microgram/day.



How small is 2.1 micrograms?

If a very small mint (weighing 210 milligrams) was broken into pieces that each weigh 2.1 micrograms, you would have more than 100,000 pieces, each smaller than the naked eye could see.

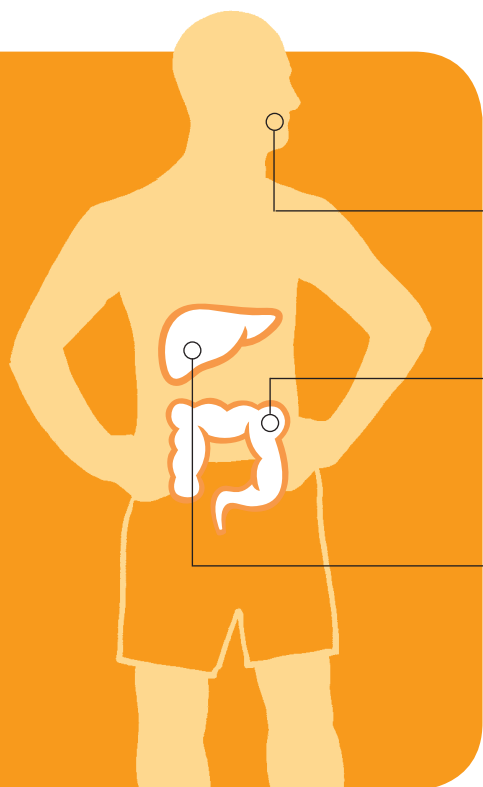


It would take about 274 years to consume the entire mint if one piece was taken in every day, 365 days a year.

To reach the level of BPA considered safe for a daily life-long intake one single person weighing 60 kg would have to consume about **1800 cans of beverages every day.**



What happens to BPA inside the human body?



We know a great deal about how BPA is processed by the human body from extensive studies on lab animals and some studies with human volunteers.

The trace amount of BPA that may be taken in through the normal daily diet is far below a level that could cause health effects.

When ingested, BPA is absorbed through the intestinal wall. Most of the BPA that is taken in is converted in the intestine to an inactive kind of sugar with no known biological activity.

Any trace amount of BPA that remains is then converted in the liver to the same inactive substance before entering the bloodstream. The inactive sugar-compound is eliminated through urine within 24 hours.

In clinical studies when volunteers were exposed to much higher levels of BPA than typical, no BPA could be detected in the bloodstream.

Consuming “external” estrogens is part of the normal diet.

We regularly consume naturally occurring estrogen-like substances, called “phytoestrogens”, as part of our diet through vegetables like soy beans, carrots, garlic or coffee. Only in a laboratory it is possible to produce very low estrogen-like activity by exposure to very high levels of BPA which can never be reached in normal daily life.

Even more:

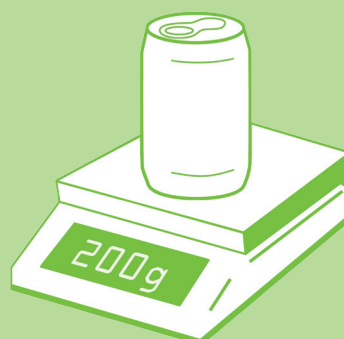
It is impossible for consumers to be exposed to the amount of BPA established as safe limit by European and international authorities via food or any other sources.

[More information on BPA:](#)

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Disclaimer: This information is supplied in good faith by the PC/BPA Industry Group of Plastics Europe, and is based on the best information currently available. While every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy, the PC/BPA Group does not accept liability for loss or damage, howsoever caused, arising from the use of the information.

Comparing ingestion of estrogen-like compounds in food and beverages of 200g



1 microgram \cong 0.03 % of the safe daily intake for a 60 kg person



800 microgram

The estrogen-like potency of BPA is similar to that of naturally occurring estrogen-like substances.

Carrots contain 800 times more estrogen-like compounds than the same amount of beverages from epoxy-coated cans.

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