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ANN ARBOR, Mich., Sept. 25 (UPI) -- A series of studies indicate U.S. childhood obesity is due to a host of unhealthy pressures including fast food, TV advertising and less school gym.

The special supplement published in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine includes a collection of evidence produced by researchers at the University of Michigan and the University of Illinois at Chicago on factors that contribute to the escalating rates of childhood obesity.

Among the factors linked to childhood obesity are: soft drinks available in school, diminishing school physical education classes, minority students attending school with less varsity sports, low-income neighborhoods having a higher proportion of their restaurants serving fast food, low-income neighborhoods having fewer supermarkets in which to buy groceries and television ads steering children to spend their money on junk food.

"Research is showing us that we have in our schools and communities a perfect storm that will continue to feed the childhood obesity epidemic until we adopt policies that improve the health of our communities and our kids," Frank Chaloupka, head of the University of Illinois at Chicago research team, said in a statement.

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About the Author

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On thousands of brand name products and fast food restaurants. Daily news for calorie counters on diet, weight loss, nutrition, and food.

The Fast Food Nutrition and Calorie Guide is the only fast food nutrition and calorie guide that shows you how to choose healthy fast food, count fast food.

This is fast food era we are living in today. Here is an account of fast food facts, effects they have on us, and choices you can make to eat healthy.

Fast Food Knowledge by Diet Riot. Get the fast food nutrition and ingredients.

Compare your fast food in this incredible nutrition ebook. Your Guide To Fast Food Health is the only book on Fast Food Nutrition.

The Nutrition Center is pioneering research into the role diet and. Visit our interactive website to learn how to make better food choices.

Find thousands of health, fitness and exercise products from top manufacturers. Offering related fitness.

Many fast food restaurants publish their nutritional content online, and some have low fat or lighter items. Get calorie content and fat grams for your.

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