


USDA Nutrients

Provides:

This API provides nutrient data for each food item registered in the USDA database. The API provides much more detailed information related to the type you may find on a Nutrition Info label.

Key Provisioning:

Pain factor (0=easy...5=nightmare): 

- An aspect of the process worth pointing out.
- Another thing you'll need to know/do to get a key.
- API key requests are procured not through USDA.gov, but rather through data.gov. Sign up for an API key [here](#).

Quotas:

- The demo API key **DEMO_KEY** offers 30 requests per IP address per hour, and 50 requests per IP address per day.
- API calls made from your own API key has a quota of 1,000 requests per hour.

Source: <https://api.data.gov/docs/rate-limits>

The Good:

- Requesting an API key is quick and easy, and you may find that its process is very similar to that of the NASA API.
- There is a ton of information at your disposal, which means there are more possibilities with what you may wish to do with this data.
- There are many quickstart examples that you can tailor to get the types of results you are looking for.

The Bad:

- API calls made for a [Food Report request](#) must refer to at least one food item through its **ndbno**, or NDB number.
- A particular food item's NDB number can be found by making a separate API call for a [Search request](#).
- Not necessarily bad once you get the hang of it, but there are many nested dictionaries, and some dictionary keys may not be optimally named.

The Ugly:

- Compared to other APIs, although there is a ton of information available per API call, the amount of the different types of API calls one can make/the amount of API services offered seems to be limited.

Location: <https://ndb.nal.usda.gov/ndb/doc/apilist/API-FOOD-REPORTV2.md>

Accurate as of 2018-11-14

Contributors:

Raymond Wu

Kendrick Liang