

Food Environment Atlas Data Documentation

Data Released July 2015

Indicators are county-level measures unless otherwise noted with asterisks

** State-level indicator*

*** Regional-level indicator*

Definitions and data sources

Category: Access and Proximity to Grocery Store

Indicator: Population, low access to store

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of people in a county living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aerially allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau’s Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Population, low access to store (%)

Geographic level County

Definition Percentage of people in a county living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.

Data sources Data are from the 2012 report, [Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data](#). In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aially allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Low income & low access to store

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of people in a county with low income and living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aurally allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Low income & low access to store (%)

Geographic level County

Definition Percentage of people in a county with low income and living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.

Data sources Data are from the 2012 report, [Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data](#). In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aially allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Children, low access to store

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of children (age <18) in a county living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aurally allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Children, low access to store (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of children (age <18) in a county living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aially allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Seniors, low access to store

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of seniors (age >64) in a county living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aurally allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Seniors, low access to store (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of seniors (age >64) in a county living more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store if in an urban area, or more than 10 miles from a supermarket or large grocery store if in a rural area.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aially allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Households, no car & low access to store

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of housing units in a county without a car and more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aurally allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Households, no car & low access to store (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of housing units in a county without a car and more than 1 mile from a supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store.
Data sources	Data are from the 2012 report, Access to Affordable and Nutritious Food: Updated Estimates of Distances to Supermarkets Using 2010 Data . In this report, a directory of supermarkets, supercenters and large grocery stores within the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, was derived from merging the 2010 STARS directory of stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits and the 2010 Trade Dimensions TDLinx directory of stores. Stores met the definition of a supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store if they reported at least \$2 million in annual sales and contained all the major food departments found in a traditional supermarket, including fresh meat and poultry, dairy, dry and packaged foods, and frozen foods. The combined list of supermarkets and large grocery stores was converted into a GIS-usable format by geocoding the street address into store-point locations. Population data are reported at the block level from the 2010 Census of Population and Housing. These population data were aially allocated down to ½-kilometer-square grids across the United States. For each ½-kilometer-square grid cell, the distance was calculated from its geographic center to the center of the grid cell with the nearest supermarket. Rural or urban status is designated by the Census Bureau's Urban Area definition.
Available Year(s)	2010

Category: Store Availability

Indicator: Grocery stores

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of supermarkets and grocery stores in the county. Grocery stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445110) include establishments generally known as supermarkets and smaller grocery stores primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables; and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Included in this industry are delicatessen-type establishments primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food. Convenience stores, with or without gasoline sales, are excluded. Large general merchandise stores that also retail food, such as supercenters and warehouse club stores, are excluded.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Grocery stores (% change)

Geographic level County

Definition The percent change in the number of supermarkets and grocery stores in the county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Grocery stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445110) include establishments generally known as supermarkets and smaller grocery stores primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables; and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Included in this industry are delicatessen-type establishments primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food. Convenience stores, with or without gasoline sales, are excluded. Large general-merchandise stores that also retail food, such as supercenters and warehouse club stores, are excluded.

Data sources Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

Available Year(s)

2007-2012

Indicator: Grocery stores/1,000 pop

Geographic level County

Definition The number of supermarkets and grocery stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Grocery stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445110) include establishments generally known as supermarkets and smaller grocery stores primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables; and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Included in this industry are delicatessen-type establishments primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food. Convenience stores, with or without gasoline sales, are excluded. Large general-merchandise stores that also retail food, such as supercenters and warehouse club stores, are excluded.

Data sources Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007

2012

Indicator: Grocery stores/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level County

Definition The percent change in the number of supermarkets and grocery stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Grocery stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445110) include establishments generally known as supermarkets and smaller grocery stores primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables; and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Included in this industry are delicatessen-type establishments primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food. Convenience stores, with or without gasoline sales, are excluded. Large general-merchandise stores that also retail food, such as supercenters and warehouse club stores, are excluded.

Data sources Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007-2012

Indicator: Supercenters & club stores

Geographic level County

Definition The number of supercenters and warehouse club stores in the county. Warehouse clubs and supercenters (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 452910) are primarily engaged in retailing a general line of groceries in combination with general lines of new merchandise, such as apparel, furniture, and appliances. They exclude grocery stores and supermarkets, which are listed separately.

Data sources Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

Available Year(s)

2007

2012

Indicator: Supercenters & club stores (% change)

Geographic level County

Definition Percent change in the number of supercenters and warehouse club stores in the county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Warehouse clubs and supercenters (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 452910) are primarily engaged in retailing a general line of groceries in combination with general lines of new merchandise, such as apparel, furniture, and appliances. They exclude grocery stores and supermarkets, which are listed separately.

Data sources Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

Available Year(s)

2007-2012

Indicator: Supercenters & club stores/1,000 pop

Geographic level County

Definition The number of supercenters and warehouse club stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Supercenters and warehouse club stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 452910) are primarily engaged in retailing a general line of groceries in combination with general lines of new merchandise, such as apparel, furniture, and appliances. They exclude grocery stores and supermarkets, which are listed separately.

Data sources Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007

2012

Indicator: Supercenters & club stores/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of supercenters and warehouse club stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote “no value.” Supercenters and warehouse club stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 452910) are primarily engaged in retailing a general line of groceries in combination with general lines of new merchandise, such as apparel, furniture, and appliances. They exclude grocery stores and supermarkets, which are listed separately.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: Convenience stores

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of convenience stores in the county. Establishments known as convenience stores or food marts (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes 445120 and 447110) are primarily engaged in retailing a limited line of goods that generally includes milk, bread, soda, and snacks.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Convenience stores (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of convenience stores in the county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote “no value.” Establishments known as convenience stores or food marts (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes 445120 and 447110) are primarily engaged in retailing a limited line of goods that generally includes milk, bread, soda, and snacks.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: Convenience stores/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of convenience stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Establishments known as convenience stores or food marts (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes 445120 and 447110) are primarily engaged in retailing a limited line of goods that generally includes milk, bread, soda, and snacks.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Convenience stores/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of convenience stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Establishments known as convenience stores or food marts (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445120 and 447110) are primarily engaged in retailing a limited line of goods that generally includes milk, bread, soda, and snacks.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: Specialized food stores

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of specialized food stores in the county. Specialized food stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445200) include establishments primarily engaged in retailing specialized lines of food, such as retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, dairy stores, and produce markets.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Specialized food stores (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	The percent change in the number of specialized food stores in the county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $(((\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}) * 100)$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Specialized food stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445200) include establishments primarily engaged in retailing specialized lines of food, such as retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, dairy stores, and produce markets.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: Specialized food stores/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of specialized food stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Specialized food stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445200) include establishments primarily engaged in retailing specialized lines of food, such as retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, dairy stores, and produce markets.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Specialized food stores/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	The percent change in number of specialized food stores in the county per 1,000 county residents. Specialized food stores (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 445200) include establishments primarily engaged in retailing specialized lines of food, such as retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, dairy stores, and produce markets.
Data sources	Store data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: SNAP-authorized stores

Geographic level	County
Definition	The average monthly number of stores in the county authorized to accept SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) benefits. Stores authorized for SNAP include: supermarkets; large, medium and small grocery stores and convenience stores; superstores and supercenters; warehouse club stores; and specialized foodstores (retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, and produce markets).
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, SNAP Benefits Redemption Division.
Special Notes	ERS used average monthly stores as the basis for the calculation of this variable. The numbers for both 2008 and 2012 versions of this variable were recalculated to reflect this new methodology and should be regarded as different from previous versions of the Atlas. ERS did not include meal service providers that serve eligible persons among SNAP-authorized stores during calculation of this variable.
Available Year(s)	2008 2012

Indicator: SNAP-authorized stores (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the average monthly number of stores in the county authorized to accept SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) benefits. Percent change indicators are calculated as $(((\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}) * 100)$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to missing to denote "no value." Stores authorized for SNAP include: supermarkets; large, medium and small grocery stores and convenience stores; superstores and supercenters; warehouse club stores; and specialized foodstores (retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, and produce markets).
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, SNAP Benefits Redemption Division.
Special Notes	ERS used average monthly stores as the basis for the calculation of this variable. The numbers for both 2008 and 2012 versions of this variable were recalculated to reflect this new methodology and should be regarded as different from previous versions of the Atlas. ERS did not include meal service providers that serve eligible persons among SNAP-authorized stores during calculation of this variable.
Available Year(s)	2008-2012

Indicator: SNAP-authorized stores/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	The average monthly number of stores in the county authorized to accept SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) per 1,000 county residents. SNAP stores include: supermarkets; large, medium and small grocery stores and convenience stores; superstores and supercenters; warehouse club stores; and specialized foodstores (retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, and produce markets).
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, SNAP Benefits Redemption Division. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	ERS used average monthly stores as the basis for the calculation of this variable. The numbers for both 2008 and 2012 versions of this variable were recalculated to reflect this new methodology and should be regarded as different from previous versions of the Atlas. ERS did not include meal service providers that serve eligible persons among SNAP-authorized stores during calculation of this variable.
Available Year(s)	2008 2012

Indicator: SNAP-authorized stores/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	The percent change in the average monthly number of stores in the county authorized to accept SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) per 1,000 county residents. Percent change indicators are calculated as $(((\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}) * 100)$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to missing to denote "no value." SNAP stores include: supermarkets; large, medium and small grocery stores and convenience stores; superstores and supercenters; warehouse club stores; and specialized foodstores (retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, and produce markets).
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, SNAP Benefits Redemption Division. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	ERS used average monthly stores as the basis for the calculation of this variable. The numbers for both 2008 and 2012 versions of this variable were recalculated to reflect this new methodology and should be regarded as different from previous versions of the Atlas. ERS did not include meal service providers that serve eligible persons among SNAP-authorized stores during calculation of this variable.
Available Year(s)	2008-2012

Indicator: WIC-authorized stores

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of stores in a county that are authorized to accept WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) benefits. Does not include direct distribution centers serving participants in Mississippi's WIC program. WIC stores in Vermont, where home delivery is the primary distribution system, have been authorized since FY2012 to accept cash value vouchers for the purchase of fruits and vegetables.
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch.
Available Year(s)	2008 2012

Indicator: WIC-authorized stores (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of stores in a county that are authorized to accept WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) benefits. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value."
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch.
Available Year(s)	2008-2012

Indicator: WIC-authorized stores/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of stores in a county that are authorized to accept WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) benefits per 1,000 population.
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2008 2012

Indicator: WIC-authorized stores/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the total number of WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) stores in a county per 1,000 population. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value."
Data sources	Store data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2008-2012

Category: Restaurant Availability and Expenditures**Indicator: Fast-food restaurants**

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of limited-service restaurants in the county. Limited-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 722211) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services (except snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars) where patrons generally order or select items and pay before eating. Food and drink may be consumed on premises, taken out, or delivered to the customer's location. Some establishments in this industry may provide these food services in combination with alcoholic beverage sales.
Data sources	Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Fast-food restaurants (% change)

Geographic level County

Definition Percent change in the number of limited-service restaurants in the county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Limited-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 722211) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services (except snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars) where patrons generally order or select items and pay before eating. Food and drink may be consumed on premises, taken out, or delivered to the customer's location. Some establishments in this industry may provide these food services in combination with alcoholic beverage sales.

Data sources Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

Available Year(s)

2007-2012

Indicator: Fast-food restaurants/1,000 pop

Geographic level County

Definition The number of limited-service restaurants in the county per 1,000 county residents. Limited-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 722211) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services (except snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars) where patrons generally order or select items and pay before eating. Food and drink may be consumed on premises, taken out, or delivered to the customer's location. Some establishments in this industry may provide these food services in combination with alcoholic beverage sales.

Data sources Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007

2012

Indicator: Fast-food restaurants/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level County

Definition Percent change in the number of limited-service restaurants in the county per 1,000 residents. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Limited-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 722211) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services (except snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars) where patrons generally order or select items and pay before eating. Food and drink may be consumed on premises, taken out, or delivered to the customer's location. Some establishments in this industry may provide these food services in combination with alcoholic beverage sales.

Data sources Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007-2012

Indicator: Full-service restaurants

Geographic level County

Definition The number of full-service restaurants in the county. Full-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code 722110) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services to patrons who order and are served while seated (i.e., waiter/waitress service) and pay after eating. These establishments may provide this type of food service to patrons in combination with selling alcoholic beverages, providing takeout services, or presenting live nontheatrical entertainment.

Data sources Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

Available Year(s)

2007

2012

Indicator: Full-service restaurants (% change)

Geographic level County

Definition Percent change in the number of full-service restaurants in the county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Full-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 722110) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services to patrons who order and are served while seated (i.e., waiter/waitress service) and pay after eating. These establishments may provide this type of food service to patrons in combination with selling alcoholic beverages, providing takeout services, or presenting live nontheatrical entertainment.

Data sources Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

Available Year(s)

2007-2012

Indicator: Full-service restaurants/1,000 pop

Geographic level County

Definition The number of full-service restaurants in the county per 1,000 residents. Full-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 722110) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services to patrons who order and are served while seated (i.e., waiter/waitress service) and pay after eating. These establishments may provide this type of food service to patrons in combination with selling alcoholic beverages, providing takeout services, or presenting live nontheatrical entertainment.

Data sources Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007

2012

Indicator: Full-service restaurants/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of full-service restaurants in the county per 1,000 residents. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Full-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 722110) include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services to patrons who order and are served while seated (i.e., waiter/waitress service) and pay after eating. These establishments may provide this type of food service to patrons in combination with selling alcoholic beverages, providing takeout services, or presenting live nontheatrical entertainment.
Data sources	Restaurant data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: Expenditures per capita, fast food*

Geographic level	State
Definition	Average expenditures (in current dollars) on food purchased at limited-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 7222) by county residents. Limited-service restaurants include establishments primarily engaged in providing food services (except snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars) where patrons generally order or select items and pay before eating. Food and drink may be consumed on premises, taken out, or delivered to the customer's location. Some establishments in this industry may provide these food services in combination with selling alcoholic beverages.
Data sources	Economic Census, Accommodation and Food Services: Geographic Area Series, accessed at U.S. Census Bureau, American Factfinder. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2002: Summary Statistics, Table EC0272A1; 2007: Summary Statistics for the United States, States, Metro Areas, Counties, and Places, Table EC0772A1
Available Year(s)	2002 2007

Indicator: Expenditures per capita, restaurants*

Geographic level	State
Definition	Average expenditures (in current dollars) on food purchased at full-service restaurants (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 7221) by county residents. Restaurants are establishments primarily engaged in providing food services to patrons who order and are served while seated (i.e., waiter/waitress service) and pay after eating. These establishments may provide this type of food service to patrons in combination with selling alcoholic beverages, providing takeout services, or presenting live nontheatrical entertainment.
Data sources	Economic Census, Accommodation and Food Services: Geographic Area Series, accessed at U.S. Census Bureau, American Factfinder. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2002: Summary Statistics, Table EC0272A1; 2007: Summary Statistics for the United States, States, Metro Areas, Counties, and Places, Table EC0772A1
Available Year(s)	2002 2007

Category: Food Assistance**Indicator: SNAP redemptions/SNAP-authorized stores**

Geographic level	County
Definition	Average SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) redemptions per SNAP-authorized store in a county. SNAP stores include: supermarkets; large, medium and small grocery stores and convenience stores; super stores and supercenters; warehouse club stores; and specialized food stores (retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, and produce markets).
Data sources	Store and redemption data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, SNAP Benefits Redemption Division.
Special Notes	ERS used average monthly stores as the basis for the calculation of this variable. The numbers for both 2008 and 2012 versions of this variable were recalculated to reflect this new methodology and should be regarded as different from previous versions of the Atlas. ERS did not include meal service providers that serve eligible persons among SNAP-authorized stores during calculation of this variable.
Available Year(s)	2008 2012

Indicator: SNAP redemptions/SNAP-authorized stores (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in average SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) redemptions per SNAP-authorized store in a county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to missing to denote "no value." SNAP stores include: supermarkets; large, medium and small grocery stores and convenience stores; super stores and supercenters; warehouse club stores; and specialized food stores (retail bakeries, meat and seafood markets, and produce markets).
Data sources	Store and redemption data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, SNAP Benefits Redemption Division.
Special Notes	ERS used average monthly stores as the basis for the calculation of this variable. The numbers for both 2008 and 2012 versions of this variable were recalculated to reflect this new methodology and should be regarded as different from previous versions of the Atlas. ERS did not include meal service providers that serve eligible persons among SNAP-authorized stores during calculation of this variable.
Available Year(s)	2008-2012

Indicator: SNAP participants (% pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	Percentage of the State population receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) benefits in an average month.
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 on the SNAP Program Data page. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2009 2014

Indicator: SNAP participants (change % pop)*

Geographic level State

Definition The percentage point change in the average monthly percentage of the population receiving SNAP benefits. Percentage point change calculated as (Year 2 – Year 1).

Data sources Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 on the SNAP Program Data page. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2009-2014

Indicator: SNAP benefits per capita

Geographic level County

Definition The average monthly dollar amount of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) benefits in a county divided by the county population. Missing data have a value of -9999.

Data sources SNAP benefits from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts Directorate, as reported in the [SNAP Data System](#) at ERS. Population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Intercensal Estimates (2000-2010).

Available Year(s)

2008

2010

Indicator: SNAP benefits per capita (% change)

Geographic level County

Definition Percent change in the per capita average monthly dollar amount of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) benefits in a county. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, or Year 1 or Year 2 have missing values, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote “no value.”

Data sources SNAP benefits from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts Directorate, as reported in the [SNAP Data System](#) at ERS. Population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, County Intercensal Estimates (2000-2010).

Available Year(s)

2008-2010

Indicator: SNAP participants (% eligible pop)*

Geographic level State

Definition Estimate of the number of people in the State who participated in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously called Food Stamp Program) divided by the number of people eligible to participate in the State.

Data sources Cunyningham, Karen E. Reaching Those in Need: State Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation Rates in 2010, prepared by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. (MPR) for USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, December 2012, Page 5.

Special Notes MPR used a new methodology to calculate SNAP participation rates for 2008, 2009, and 2010; the resulting values are not comparable to values calculated using the previous methodology. ERS has only posted values for 2008 and 2010 using this new methodology. Data for 2009, posted in previous versions of the Atlas, were constructed using an older methodology and are not comparable to the currently posted values for 2008 and 2010.

Available Year(s)

2008

2010

Indicator: National School Lunch Program participants (% pop)

Geographic level	State
Definition	The average daily percentage of the population participating in the National School Lunch Program. Participation data are 9-month averages; summer months (June-August) are excluded. Participation is based on average daily meals divided by an attendance factor of 0.927.
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version. In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "School Lunch participants (% pop)".
Available Year(s)	2009 2014

Indicator: National School Lunch Program participants (change % pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The change in the percentage of the population participating in the National School Lunch Program. Percentage point change calculated as (Year 2 – Year 1).
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version. In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "School Lunch participants (change % pop)".
Available Year(s)	2009-2014

Indicator: Students eligible for free lunch (%)

Geographic level	County (State level for Nevada)
Definition	The percentage of total students eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program under the Free Lunch Program.
Data sources	U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.
Special Notes	In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "Students free-lunch eligible (%)".
Available Year(s)	2006 2010

Indicator: Students eligible for reduced-price lunch (%)

Geographic level	County (State level for Nevada)
Definition	The percentage of total students eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program under the Reduced-price Lunch Program.
Data sources	U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.
Special Notes	In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "Students reduced-price-lunch eligible (%)".
Available Year(s)	2006 2010

Indicator: School Breakfast Program participants (% pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The average daily percentage of the population participating in the School Breakfast Program. Participation data are 9-month averages; summer months (June-August) are excluded. Participation is based on average daily meals divided by an attendance factor of 0.927.
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version. In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "School Breakfast participants (% pop)".
Available Year(s)	2009 2014

Indicator: School Breakfast Program participants (change % pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The percentage point change in the average daily percentage of the population participating in the National School Breakfast Program (excludes June, July, and August). Change calculated as (Year 2 – Year 1).
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version. In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "School Breakfast participants (change % pop)".
Available Year(s)	2009 2014

Indicator: Summer Food Service Program participants (% pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The average daily percentage of the population participating in the Summer Food Service Program (measured in July).
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version. In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "Summer Food participants (% pop)".
Available Year(s)	2009 2014

Indicator: Summer Food Service Program participants (change % pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The change in the percentage of the population participating in the Summer Food Program (measured in July). Change is calculated as (Year 2 – Year 1). Average daily attendance is reported for July only, the peak month of national program activity.
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version. In past versions of ERS's Food Environment Atlas, the name for this variable was "Summer Food participants (change % pop)".
Available Year(s)	2009-2014

Indicator: WIC redemptions per capita

Geographic level	County
Definition	The total dollar amount of WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) benefits redeemed through WIC-authorized stores in a county divided by the total county population. Redemptions are set to -9999 when data are not available or when there are fewer than 4 WIC-authorized stores in a county.
Data sources	Redemption data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2008 2012

Indicator: WIC redemptions per capita (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the total dollar amount of WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) redemptions in a county per capita. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value."
Data sources	Redemption data are from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2008-2012

Indicator: WIC redemptions/WIC-authorized stores

Geographic level	County
Definition	The total dollar amount of WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) benefits redeemed through WIC-authorized stores in a county divided by the number of WIC-authorized stores. Redemptions are set to -9999 when data are not available or when there are fewer than 4 WIC-authorized stores in a county.
Data sources	Store and redemption data are from Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.
Available Year(s)	2008 2012

Indicator: WIC redemptions/WIC-authorized stores (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in average WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) redemptions per WIC-authorized store. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value." Redemptions are set to -9999 when data are not available or when there are fewer than 4 WIC-authorized stores in a county.
Data sources	Store and redemption data are from Program Analysis and Monitoring Branch, Supplemental Food Programs Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.
Available Year(s)	2008-2012

Indicator: WIC participants (% pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The monthly average percentage of the population who received at least one WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) food instrument or food during the report month or were breastfed by a participating mother. Participation data are 12-month averages.
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2009 2014

Indicator: WIC participants (change % pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The monthly average percentage of the population who received at least one WIC Program (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) food instrument or food during the report month or were breastfed by a participating mother. Participation data are 12-month averages.
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2009-2014

Indicator: Child & Adult Care (% pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The average daily attendance for all childcare centers participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (including childcare centers, family daycare homes, and adult-care centers) divided by the State population (displayed as percent). Average daily attendance data are reported on a quarterly basis only (March, June, September, and December). Annual averages are divided by four.
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version.
Available Year(s)	2009 2014

Indicator: Child & Adult Care (change % pop)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The change in the percentage of the population attending childcare centers participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (including childcare centers, family daycare homes, and adult-care centers). Percent change indicators are calculated as (Year 2 – Year 1).
Data sources	Tabulations by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), published December 6, 2013 in Child Nutrition Tables. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	2009 data updated from the Food and Nutrition Service's "preliminary" version to the "final" version.
Available Year(s)	2009-2014

Indicator: FDPIR Sites

Geographic level	County
Definition	The number of FDPIR sites per county in 2012. The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) is a Federal nutrition assistance program for low-income households residing on Indian reservations and low-income Indian households living in designated service areas near reservations or in Oklahoma. FDPIR sites are central locations within Tribal lands where the monthly benefit package may be distributed.
Data sources	Redemption site data are from Food Distribution Division, Supplemental Nutrition and Safety Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.
Available Year(s)	2012

Indicator: SNAP online application*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The State allows households to submit a SNAP application online during at least one month in the calendar year.
Data sources	SNAP Policy Database , Economic Research Service (ERS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
Available Year(s)	2000 2005 2010

Indicator: SNAP face interview waiver*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The State has been granted a waiver to use a telephone interview in lieu of a face-to-face interview at initial certification and/or at recertification, without having to document household hardship that is valid in at least 1 month of the calendar year.
Data sources	SNAP Policy Database , Economic Research Service (ERS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
Available Year(s)	2000 2005 2010

Indicator: SNAP vehicle exclusion*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The State excluded one or more vehicles from the asset test when determining eligibility for SNAP during at least one month in the calendar year.
Data sources	SNAP Policy Database , Economic Research Service (ERS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Available Year(s)

2000
2005
2010

Indicator: SNAP Broad-based Categorical Eligibility*

Geographic level	State
Definition	The State used broad-based categorical eligibility to increase or eliminate the asset test and/or to increase the gross income limit for virtually all SNAP applicants in at least one month during the calendar year.
Data sources	SNAP Policy Database , Economic Research Service (ERS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Available Year(s)

2000
2005
2010

Indicator: SNAP simplified reporting*

Geographic level	State
Definition	For households with earnings, the State used the simplified reporting option that reduces requirements for reporting changes in household circumstances during at least 1 month of the calendar year.
Data sources	SNAP Policy Database , Economic Research Service (ERS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
Available Year(s)	2000 2005 2010

Category: State Food Insecurity

Indicator: Household food insecurity (% , three-year average)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	Prevalence of household-level food insecurity by State. Food-insecure households were unable, at times during the year, to provide adequate food for one or more household members because the household lacked money and other resources for food. For most food-insecure households, inadequacy was in quality and variety of foods; for about a third—those with very low food security—amounts were also inadequate.
Data sources	ERS estimates using 3 years of data from the Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement, as reported in Table 5 in Coleman-Jensen, Alisha, Mark Nord, and Anita Singh, Household Food Security in the United States in 2012 , ERR-155, USDA/ERS, September 2013. The food security survey asks one adult respondent in each household a series of questions about experiences and behaviors that indicate food insecurity. The food security status of the household was assessed based on the number of food-insecure conditions reported (such as being unable to afford balanced meals, cutting the size of meals because of too little money for food, or being hungry because of too little money for food). Note: margins of error are substantial for some States; comparisons between States should take into consideration margins of error published in the source report.
Available Year(s)	2000-02 (aggregate data) 2007-09 (aggregate data) 2010-12 (aggregate data)

Indicator: Household food insecurity (change %)*

Geographic level State

Definition Change in the prevalence of household-level food insecurity by State. Food-insecure households were unable, at times during the year, to provide adequate food for one or more household members because the household lacked money and other resources for food. For most food-insecure households, inadequacy was in quality and variety of foods; for about a third—those with very low food security—amounts were also inadequate.

Data sources ERS estimates using 6 years of data from the Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement, as reported in Table 5 in Coleman-Jensen, Alisha, Mark Nord, and Anita Singh, [Household Food Security in the United States in 2012](#), ERR-155, USDA/ERS, September 2013. The food security survey asks one adult respondent in each household a series of questions about experiences and behaviors that indicate food insecurity. The food security status of the household was assessed based on the number of food-insecure conditions reported (such as being unable to afford balanced meals, cutting the size of meals because of too little money for food, or being hungry because of too little money for food). Note: margins of error are substantial for some States; comparisons between States should take into consideration margins of error published in the source report.

Available Year(s)

2000-02-2010-12 (aggregate data)

2007-09-2010-12 (aggregate data)

Indicator: Household very low food security (% , three-year average)*

Geographic level State

Definition Prevalence of household-level very low food security by State. In households with very low food security, food intake of one or more members was reduced and eating patterns were disrupted at times during the year because of insufficient money and other resources for food.

Data sources ERS estimates using 3 years of data from the Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement, as reported in Table 5 in Coleman-Jensen, Alisha, Mark Nord, and Anita Singh, [Household Food Security in the United States in 2012](#), ERR-155, USDA/ERS, September 2013 (<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/err-economic-research-report/err155.aspx>). The food security survey asks one adult respondent in each household a series of questions about experiences and behaviors that indicate food insecurity. The food security status of the household was assessed based on the number of food-insecure conditions reported (such as being unable to afford balanced meals, cutting the size of meals because of too little money for food, or being hungry because of too little money for food). Note: margins of error are substantial for some States; comparisons between States should take into consideration margins of error published in the source report.

Available Year(s)

2000-02-2010-12 (aggregate data)

2007-09-2010-12 (aggregate data)

Indicator: Household very low food security (change %)*

Geographic level State

Definition Change in the prevalence of household-level very low food security by State. In households with very low food security, food intake of one or more members was reduced and eating patterns were disrupted at times during the year because of insufficient money and other resources for food.

Data sources ERS estimates using 6 years of data from the Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement, as reported in Table 5 in Coleman-Jensen, Alisha, Mark Nord, and Anita Singh, [Household Food Security in the United States in 2012](#), ERR-155, USDA/ERS, September 2013. The food security survey asks one adult respondent in each household a series of questions about experiences and behaviors that indicate food insecurity. The food security status of the household was assessed based on the number of food-insecure conditions reported (such as being unable to afford balanced meals, cutting the size of meals because of too little money for food, or being hungry because of too little money for food). Note: margins of error are substantial for some States; comparisons between States should take into consideration margins of error published in the source report.

Available Year(s)

2000-02-2010-12 (aggregate data)

2007-09-2010-12 (aggregate data)

Indicator: Child food insecurity (% households, multiple-year average)*

Geographic level State

Definition Percentage of households with children in which children were food insecure, by State. Households with food-insecure children were unable, at times during the year, to provide adequate food for one or more child because the household lacked money and other resources for food. For most of these households, inadequacy was in quality and variety of foods; for about one in ten, amounts of food provided were also inadequate.

Data sources Data are from an annual survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau as a supplement to the monthly Current Population Survey. USDA sponsors the annual survey, and USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) compiles and analyzes the responses. The surveys were of representative samples of the U.S. civilian population and included between 15,000 and 18,000 households with children each year. (However, about a fourth of the sample in the 2007 survey was not used for food security estimates because a proposed wording change tested in those households did not perform adequately.) The survey is conducted both by telephone and in person so that households with no telephone are not underrepresented. The food security survey asked one adult respondent in each household a series of questions about experiences and behaviors that indicate food insecurity. The food security status of children in the household was assessed by responses to a subset of questions about the conditions and experiences of children. For more information on the methodology, see Coleman-Jensen, Alisha, William McFall and Mark Nord. [Food Insecurity in Households With Children: Prevalence, Severity, and Household Characteristics, 2010-11](#), EIB 113, USDA/ERS, May 2013 (Table 3). Note: margins of error are substantial for some States; comparisons between States should take into consideration margins of error published in the source report.

Available Year(s)

2001-07 (aggregate data)
2003-2011 (aggregate data)

Category: Food Prices and Taxes**Indicator: Price of low-fat milk/national average****

Geographic level Region (26 markets and 9 nonmetro census divisions as proscribed by the Nielsen data)

Definition Regional average price of low-fat milk relative to the national average price. Low-fat milk includes nonfat and 1-percent milk.

Data sources ERS estimates using the [Quarterly Food-at-Home Price Database, QFAHPD-2](#).

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Price of sodas/national average**

Geographic level	Region (26 markets and 9 nonmetro census divisions as proscribed by the Nielsen data)
Definition	Regional average price of sodas relative to the national average price. Sodas include carbonated diet and caloric-sweetened beverages.
Data sources	ERS estimates using the Quarterly Food-at-Home Price Database, QFAHPD-2 .

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Price of low-fat milk/price of sodas**

Geographic level	Region (26 markets and 9 nonmetro census divisions as proscribed by the Nielsen data)
Definition	Ratio of the regional average price of low-fat milk to the regional average price of sodas relative to the national average price ratio. Low-fat milk includes nonfat and 1-percent milk. Sodas include carbonated diet and caloric-sweetened beverages.
Data sources	ERS estimates using the Quarterly Food-at-Home Price Database, QFAHPD-2 .

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Soda sales tax, retail stores*

Geographic level	State
Definition	Additional tax on soda purchased at retail stores. Additional rates are percentage points added to general food sales tax rates.
Data sources	The data were compiled by The MayaTech Corporation for the University of Illinois at Chicago, Bridging the Gap Program, 2011.

Available Year(s)

2011

Indicator: Soda sales tax, vending*

Geographic level State

Definition Additional tax on soda drinks purchased at vending machines. Additional rates are percentage points added to the general food sales tax rates.

Data sources The data were compiled by The MayaTech Corporation for the University of Illinois at Chicago, Bridging the Gap Program, 2011.

Available Year(s)

2011

Indicator: Chip & pretzel sales tax, retail stores*

Geographic level State

Definition Additional tax on chips and pretzels purchased at retail stores. Additional rates are percentage points added to the general food sales tax rates.

Data sources The data were compiled by The MayaTech Corporation for the University of Illinois at Chicago, Bridging the Gap Program, 2011.

Available Year(s)

2011

Indicator: Chip & pretzel sales tax, vending*

Geographic level State

Definition Additional tax on chips and pretzels purchased at vending machines. Additional rates are percentage points added to the general food sales tax rates.

Data sources The data were compiled by The MayaTech Corporation for the University of Illinois at Chicago, Bridging the Gap Program, 2011.

Available Year(s)

2011

Indicator: General food sales tax, retail stores*

Geographic level	State
Definition	General food sales tax, where the definition of “food” varies by State (documentation available at Bridging the Gap Program, University of Illinois at Chicago).
Data sources	The data were compiled by The MayaTech Corporation for the University of Illinois at Chicago, Bridging the Gap Program, 2011.

Available Year(s)

2011

Category: Local Foods**Indicator: Farms with direct sales**

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farms in the county that sell at least some products directly to final consumers. This includes sales from roadside stands, farmers markets, pick-your-own, door-to-door, etc. It does not include sales of craft items or processed products, such as jellies, sausages, and hams.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Farms with direct sales (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of farms in the county that sell at least some products directly to final consumers. This includes sales from roadside stands, farmers markets, pick-your-own, door-to-door, etc. It does not include sales of craft items or processed products, such as jellies, sausages, and hams.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Direct farm sales (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of the total value of farm sales in the county sold directly to final consumers in 2007. This includes sales from roadside stands, farmers markets, pick-your-own, door-to-door, etc. It does not include sales of craft items or processed products, such as jellies, sausages, and hams.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Direct farm sales

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total value of farm sales direct to consumers in thousands of dollars. This includes sales from roadside stands, farmers markets, pick-your-own, door-to-door, etc. It does not include sales of craft items or processed products, such as jellies, sausages, and hams.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Direct farm sales per capita

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total value of farm sales direct to consumers (including sales from roadside stands, farmers markets, pick-your-own, door-to-door, etc., but not sales of craft items or processed products, such as jellies, sausages, and hams) divided by the number of residents of the county.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Farmers' markets

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2009 2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of farmers' markets in the county. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value."
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2009-2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county per 1,000 county residents. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	For 2013 farmers' markets/1,000 pop calculation, 2012 population estimates for counties were used in the denominator due to 2013 county population data unavailability.
Available Year(s)	2009 2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of farmers' markets per 1,000 county residents. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote "no value."
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Special Notes	For 2013 farmers' markets/1,000 pop (% change), 2012 population estimates for counties were used in the denominator due to 2013 county population data unavailability.
Available Year(s)	2009-2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting SNAP

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county that accept SNAP benefits. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Special Notes	The Food and Nutrition Service maintains a list of farmers' markets currently authorized to accept SNAP.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting SNAP (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of all farmers' markets in the county that accept SNAP benefits. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Special Notes	The Food and Nutrition Service maintains a list of farmers' markets currently authorized to accept SNAP.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting WIC

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county that accept WIC vouchers. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting WIC (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent of all farmers' markets in the county that accept WIC vouchers. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting WIC Cash

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county that accept WIC Cash Value vouchers. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting WIC Cash (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent of all farmers' markets in the county that accept WIC Cash Value vouchers. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting SFMNP

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county that accept Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) benefits. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report accepting SFMNP (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of all farmers' markets in the county that accept Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) benefits. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report selling fruit & vegetables

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county that sell fresh fruits and/or vegetables (does not include herbs). A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report selling fruit & vegetables (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of all farmers' markets in the county that sell fresh fruits and/or vegetables (does not include herbs). A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report selling animal products

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county that sell meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, and/or cheese. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report selling animal products (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of all farmers' markets in the county that sell meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, and/or cheese. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report selling other products

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farmers' markets in the county that sell other products, including baked goods, crafts, flowers, herbs, honey, jams, maple syrup, nursery plants, nuts, prepared foods, soap, trees and/or wine. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Farmers' markets that report selling other products (%)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of all farmers' markets in the county that sell other products, including baked goods, crafts, flowers, herbs, honey, jams, maple syrup, nursery plants, nuts, prepared foods, soap, trees and/or wine. A farmer's market is a retail outlet in which two or more vendors sell agricultural products directly to customers through a common marketing channel. At least 51 percent of retail sales are direct to consumers.
Data sources	County-level data for farmers' markets were compiled by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, Marketing Services Division.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Vegetable farms

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farms with vegetables, potatoes, or melons harvested for sale.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Vegetable acres harvested

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total number of acres of vegetables, potatoes, and melons harvested for sale.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Vegetable acres harvested/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of vegetable, potato, and melon acres harvested for sale per 1,000 county residents.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Farms with vegetables harvested for fresh market

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total number of farms with vegetables, potatoes, and melons harvested for fresh-market sale (as opposed to harvested for processing).
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Vegetable acres harvested for fresh market

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total number of acres of vegetables, potatoes, and melons harvested for fresh-market sale (as opposed to harvested for processing).
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Vegetable acres harvested for fresh market/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of vegetable, potato, and melon acres harvested for fresh-market sale (as opposed to harvested for processing), per 1,000 county residents.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Orchard farms

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farms with land in fruit trees, citrus or other groves, vineyards or nut trees, including trees and groves of nonbearing age.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Orchard acres

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total number of acres of land in fruit trees, citrus or other groves, vineyards and nut trees, including trees and groves of nonbearing age.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.

Available Year(s)

2007

Indicator: Orchard acres/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total number of acres of land in fruit trees, citrus or other groves, vineyards and nut trees, including trees and groves of nonbearing age, per 1,000 county residents.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Berry farms

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farms with land in berries, including blackberries, blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, and other types.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Berry acres

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total number of acres of land in berry production, including blackberries, blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, and other types.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Berry acres/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total number of acres of land in berry production, including blackberries, blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, and other types, per 1,000 county residents.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Small slaughterhouse facilities

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of slaughterhouses (poultry and other animals) that meet the U.S. Small Business Administration's standard for classification as a small business (defined as fewer than 500 employees).
Data sources	2007 Economic Census for NAICS industries 311611 and 311615.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Greenhouse vegetable and fresh herb farms

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farms with at least some production of vegetables or fresh-cut herbs produced under glass or other protection (e.g., greenhouses).
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Greenhouse veg and fresh herb sq feet

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total square feet of land dedicated to the production of vegetables or fresh-cut herbs under glass or other protection (e.g., greenhouses).
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Greenhouse veg and fresh herb sq feet/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total square feet of land dedicated to the production of vegetables or fresh-cut herbs under glass or other protection (e.g., greenhouses), per 1,000 county residents.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Food hubs

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of self-identified Food Hub organizations operating within each county. Food hubs are businesses or organizations that connect farmers and buyers by offering a suite of production, distribution, and marketing services.
Data sources	Compiled from USDA's AMS "Working List of Food Hubs."
Available Year(s)	2012

Indicator: CSA farms

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farms marketing at least some products through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) arrangement.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Agritourism operations

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of farms reporting sales from agritourism and/or recreational services.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Agritourism receipts

Geographic level	County
Definition	Total farm revenue derived from agritourism and/or recreational services.
Data sources	2007 Census of Agriculture.
Available Year(s)	2007

Indicator: Farm to school program

Geographic level	County
Definition	Counties with one or more farm to school program where 1=one or more “farm-to-school” programs and 0=no such participation within the county. These programs include: direct sourcing from local producers, local sourcing through the Department of Defense procurement system (known as “DOD Fresh”), school gardens, farm tours, farm-related nutrition education or other classroom activities, and school menus and snacks highlighting locally sourced or locally available foods.
Data sources	The National Farm to School Network conducted surveys in 2004 and 2005-06, and compiled the data from these surveys as well as a self-reporting registry maintained by the Network since 2007 at the Farm to School webpage, supplemented by the Network’s periodic updating efforts. To map farm-to-school programs by county, the list of programs was linked to Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) county codes if the program covered the whole county, National Center of Education Statistics Common Core of Data (CCD) school district codes if the program covered the school district, and CCD school codes if the program was limited to an individual school. A county is counted as having a farm-to-school program whether the program covers the whole county or whether the program operates only in a school or school district within the county.
Available Year(s)	2009

Category: Health and Physical Activity

Indicator: High schoolers physically active (%)*

Geographic level	State
Definition	Percentage of high school students who self-report doing any kind of physical activity that increased their heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time for a total of at least 60 minutes per day on each of the 7 days before the survey.
Data sources	Tabulations of data from the 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System.
Available Year(s)	2009

Indicator: Adult diabetes rate

Geographic level	County
Definition	Estimates of age-adjusted percentage of persons age 20 and older with diabetes (gestational diabetes excluded).
Data sources	Estimates are from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC used data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) for 2008, 2009, and 2010 and from the U.S. Census Bureau. The methodology is described on the CDC's County Estimates page.
Available Year(s)	2009 2011

Indicator: Adult obesity rate (county)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Estimate of age-adjusted percentage of persons age 20 and older who are obese, where obesity is Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 kilograms per meters squared.
Data sources	Estimates are from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CDC used data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) for 2008, 2009, and 2010 and from the U.S. Census Bureau. The methodology is described at the CDC's County Estimates page.
Special Notes	The BRFSS used a new sampling frame and weighting methodology beginning in 2011. Therefore, estimates of indicators using 2011 data and beyond are not comparable to earlier years.
Available Year(s)	2009 2010

Indicator: Adult obesity rate*

Geographic level	State
Definition	Prevalence of obesity based on self-reported height and weight among adults.
Data sources	Estimates are from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) using data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and can be downloaded directly from the CDC's Obesity Prevalence map page.
Special Notes	The BRFSS used a new sampling frame and weighting methodology beginning in 2011. Therefore, estimates of indicators using 2011 data and beyond are not comparable to earlier years.
Available Year(s)	2013

Indicator: Low-income preschool obesity rate

Geographic level	County
Definition	Estimate of the prevalence of obesity among children 2-4 years of age in households with income up to 200 percent of the poverty threshold based on family size. For children 2-4 years of age, obesity is defined as BMI-for-age > 95th percentile based on the 2000 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) sex-specific growth charts.
Data sources	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) analysis of height and weight data from the Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System data (PEDNSS) as described in Obesity Prevalence Among Low-Income, Preschool-Aged Children—United States, 1998-2008, CDC, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, July 24, 2009/58(28):769-773. If either 2006-08 or 2009-11 value is missing, change is set to missing as well. See source description for 2006-08 and 2009-11 values for more details.
Available Year(s)	2006-08 (aggregate data) 2009-11 (aggregate data)

Indicator: Low-income preschool obesity rate (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Change in the prevalence of obesity among children 2-4 years of age in households with income up to 200 percent of the poverty threshold based on family size. For children 2-4 years of age, obesity is defined as BMI-for-age > 95th percentile based on the 2000 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) sex-specific growth charts.
Data sources	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) analysis of height and weight data from the Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System data (PEDNSS) as described in Obesity Prevalence Among Low-Income, Preschool-Aged Children—United States, 1998-2008, CDC, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, July 24, 2009/58(28):769-773. If either 2006-08 or 2009-11 value is missing, change is set to missing as well. See source description for 2006-08 and 2009-11 values for more details.
Available Year(s)	Aug 2006-Nov 2009 (aggregate data)

Indicator: Recreation & fitness facilities

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of “fitness and recreation centers” in a county, where “fitness and recreation centers” (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 713940) are establishments primarily engaged in operating fitness and recreational sports facilities featuring exercise and other active physical fitness conditioning or recreational sports activities, such as swimming, skating, or racquet sports.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Recreation & fitness facilities (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of “fitness and recreation centers” in a county, where “fitness and recreation centers” (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 713940) are establishments primarily engaged in operating fitness and recreational sports facilities featuring exercise and other active physical fitness conditioning or recreational sports activities, such as swimming, skating, or racquet sports. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote “no value.”
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: Recreation & fitness facilities/1,000 pop

Geographic level	County
Definition	Number of “fitness and recreation centers” in a county divided by number of county residents, where “fitness and recreation centers” (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 713940) are establishments primarily engaged in operating fitness and recreational sports facilities featuring exercise and other active physical fitness conditioning or recreational sports activities, such as swimming, skating, or racquet sports.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007 2012

Indicator: Recreation & fitness facilities/1,000 pop (% change)

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percent change in the number of “fitness and recreation centers” in a county divided by number of county residents, where “fitness and recreation centers” (defined by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 713940) are establishments primarily engaged in operating fitness and recreational sports facilities featuring exercise and other active physical fitness conditioning or recreational sports activities, such as swimming, skating, or racquet sports. Percent change indicators are calculated as $[(\text{Year 2} - \text{Year 1}) / \text{Year 1}] * 100$. For indicators where Year 1 has a value of zero, the percent change value is set to -9999 to denote “no value.”
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Population data are from the U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates.
Available Year(s)	2007-2012

Indicator: ERS natural amenity index

Geographic level	County
Definition	Index of natural amenities constructed by USDA's Economic Research Service, ranging from 1 to 6, where 1=lowest amenity score and 6=highest amenity score. It is based on the premise that people are drawn to areas with varied topography; lakes, ponds, or oceanfront; warm, sunny winters; and temperate, low-humidity summers. The index measures a county's natural amenities score as a standard deviation from the all-county mean value. Counties having large negative index values indicate a much lower score than the all-county mean. Large, positive scores indicate counties with natural amenities higher than the mean value for all counties. Note: Alaska and Hawaii are excluded.
Data sources	Natural Amenities Drive Rural Population Change , AER-781, USDA, ERS, and the ERS Natural Amenities Scale .
Available Year(s)	1999

Category: Socioeconomic Characteristics

Indicator: % White

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county resident population that is non-Hispanic White.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: % Black

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county resident population that is non-Hispanic Black or African American.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: % Hispanic

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county resident population that is of Hispanic origin.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: % Asian

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county resident population that is Asian.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: % American Indian or Alaska Native

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county resident population that is American Indian or Alaskan Native.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: % Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county resident population that is Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: % Population 65 years or older

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county population 65 years old or older.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: % Population under age 18

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county population under the age of 18.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Median household income

Geographic level	County
Definition	Median income by household: income level that divides county households in half, one half with income above the median and the other half with income below the median; includes income of all household members 15 years old or older.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates—2010 Data.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Poverty rate

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county residents with household income below the poverty threshold.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Available Year(s)

2010

Indicator: Persistent-poverty counties

Geographic level	County
Definition	Counties where the poverty rate of residents was 20 percent or more in the 1980, 1990, and 2000 decennial censuses and the American Community Survey 5-year estimates for 2007-2011
Data sources	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, County Typology Codes, Atlas of Rural and Small-Town America , using data from the U.S. Census Bureau.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Child poverty rate

Geographic level	County
Definition	Percentage of county residents under age 18 living in households with income below the poverty threshold.
Data sources	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates—2010 Data.
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Persistent-child-poverty counties

Geographic level	County
Definition	Counties where the poverty rate of related children under age 18 was 20 percent or more over the last 30 years, as measured by the 1980, 1990, and 2000 decennial censuses and the 2007-11 American Community Survey 5-year estimates; where 1=persistent-poverty county and 0=otherwise.
Data sources	USDA's Economic Research Service— County Typology Codes .
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Metro/nonmetro counties

Geographic level	County
Definition	Classification of counties by metro or nonmetro definition, where 1=metro county; 0=nonmetro county; metro areas include all counties containing one or more urbanized areas: high-density urban areas containing 50,000 people or more; metro areas also include outlying counties that are economically tied to the central counties, as measured by the share of workers commuting on a daily basis to the central counties. Nonmetro counties are outside the boundaries of metro areas and have no cities with 50,000 residents or more.
Data sources	USDA's Economic Research Service— Rural Classifications .
Available Year(s)	2010

Indicator: Population-loss counties

Geographic level	County
Definition	Counties where the number of residents declined both between 1980 and 1990 and between 1990 and 2000, where 1=population-loss county and 0=otherwise.
Data sources	USDA's Economic Research Service— Rural Classifications .
Available Year(s)	2010