


Mapping Food Insecurity: A Study of Miami's Food Deserts

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A dark blue, diagonal graphic element that starts from the bottom left corner and extends towards the top right, creating a sense of movement and depth. It occupies the lower half of the slide.

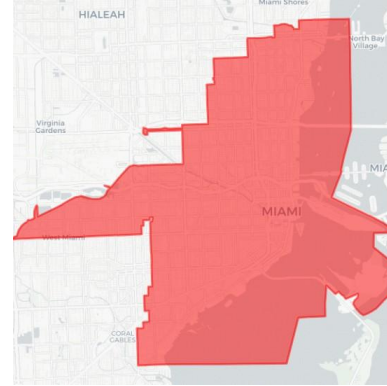
What are food deserts and why do they matter?

- Food deserts are defined as geographical areas where people have limited access to healthy and affordable food.
 - For example: residents may have easy access to fast food restaurants but no affordable grocery store or supermarket
- According to a report by the USDA, it is estimated that up to 11.3 million people live in low-income areas and are more than a mile away from a supermarket (USDA, 2009).



Scope

- The scope of our project is focused on the city of Miami, Florida



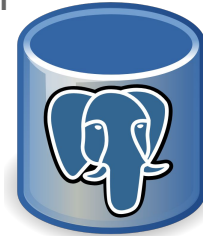
- We used data for median income and zip codes to explore which areas could be more susceptible to food deserts based on income
- We correlated that to data collected about various food options available to the defined area

Data Exploration



Data Analysis

- Zip Code Income data scraped from webpage MiamiDadeMatters.org to a CSV file
- Accessed Geopapify API to collect Restaurant, Fast Food, and Grocery Store location data. Cleaned and saved to CSV
- Created a database in PostgreSQL using information from our CSV files
- Used Flask API to connect our database and web page



pgAdmin 4

File Object Tools Help

Object Explorer Dashboard Properties SQL Statistics Dependencies Dependents Processes [miami/postgres@Postgres14*](#)

miami/postgres@Postgres14

Query Query History

```

1 DROP TABLE zip_income;
2 DROP TABLE restaurant;
3
4 CREATE TABLE zip_income (
5     Zipcode VARCHAR NOT NULL,
6     Median_income VARCHAR NOT NULL
7 );
8
9 CREATE TABLE restaurants (
10     Name VARCHAR,
11     Address VARCHAR,
12     Category VARCHAR
13 );
14
15 SELECT * FROM restaurants;
16 SELECT * FROM zip_income;

```

Data Output Messages Notifications

| | name character varying | address character varying | category character varying |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Mario the Baker Pizza | 43 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33128, United States of America | Restaurant |
| 2 | Jimmy John's | 45 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33128, United States of America | Fast Food |
| 3 | Cane A Sucre | Northwest Miami Court, Miami, FL 33128, United States of America | Fast Food |
| 4 | Motek - Mediterranean Cafe & Restaurant | 36 Northeast 1st Street, Miami, FL 33132, United States of America | Restaurant |
| 5 | Amarres de amor Florida | 43 Northeast 1st Street, Miami, FL 33132, United States of America | Restaurant |
| 6 | Miami Jolies | Southwest 1st Street, Miami, FL 33131, United States of America | Restaurant |

Example of the work done in our PostgreSQL, building the tables that would become the database.

Visualization Process

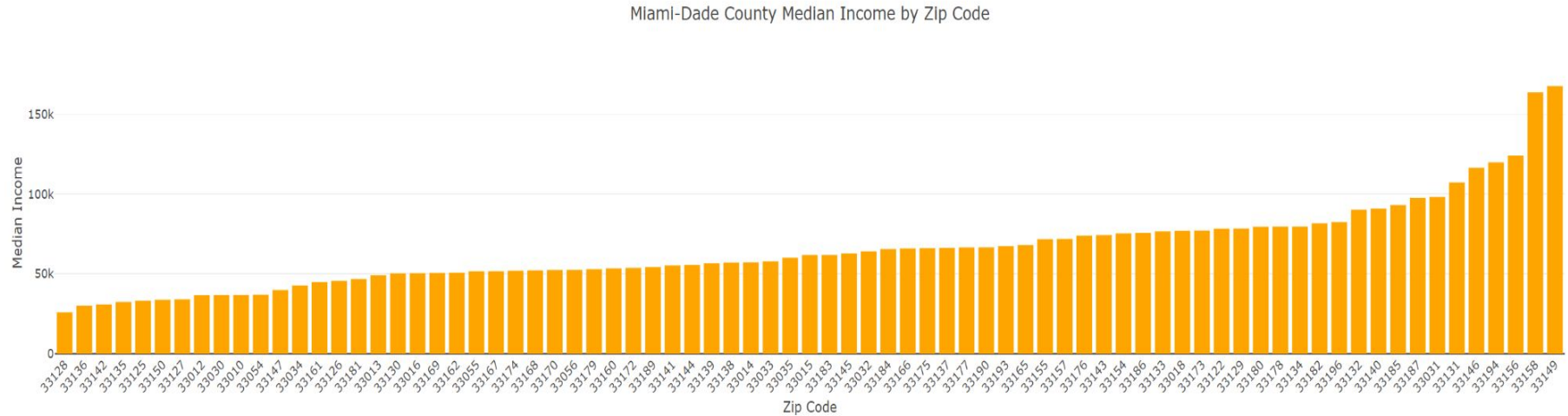
- Drafted website using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
 - Utilized Bootstrap library
- Developed Leaflet map that displays food source information and income data for each zip code
- Used Plotly JavaScript library to produce graphical visualizations



Visualizations

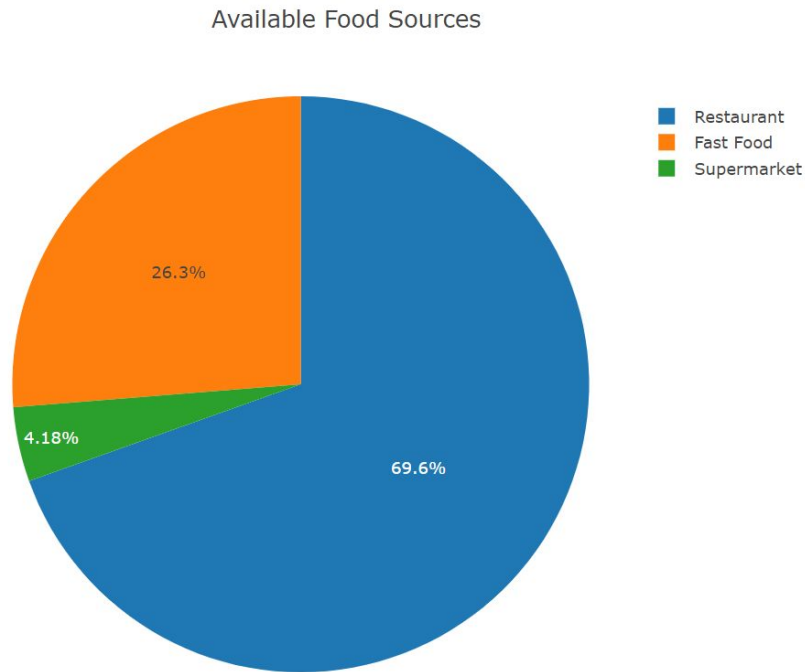


Bar chart of the income spectrum with data from the US Census Bureau, broken out by zip code



The lowest value (per year) is **\$6,052**, and the highest value is **\$254,062**. Half of the values are between **\$22,156** and **\$42,648**. The median value is **\$29,197**. The national average is **\$74,580**.

Pie chart showing the food resources available to the City of Miami, as defined by zip code



Of the 60 zip codes located within the City of Miami, **69.6%** of the available food sources identify as a 'restaurant'. These included individually owned establishments as well as chain establishments such as the Olive Garden or Jimmy Johns.

26.3% identify as a 'fast food chain', examples being McDonalds or Chick-fil-A.

Only **4.18%** of available food sources identify as a 'supermarket' or 'grocery store' in our data sampling, such as Publix or Sedano's.

This data did not account for convenience stores and/or bodegas.

Map of Miami, Florida Restaurants and Supermarkets

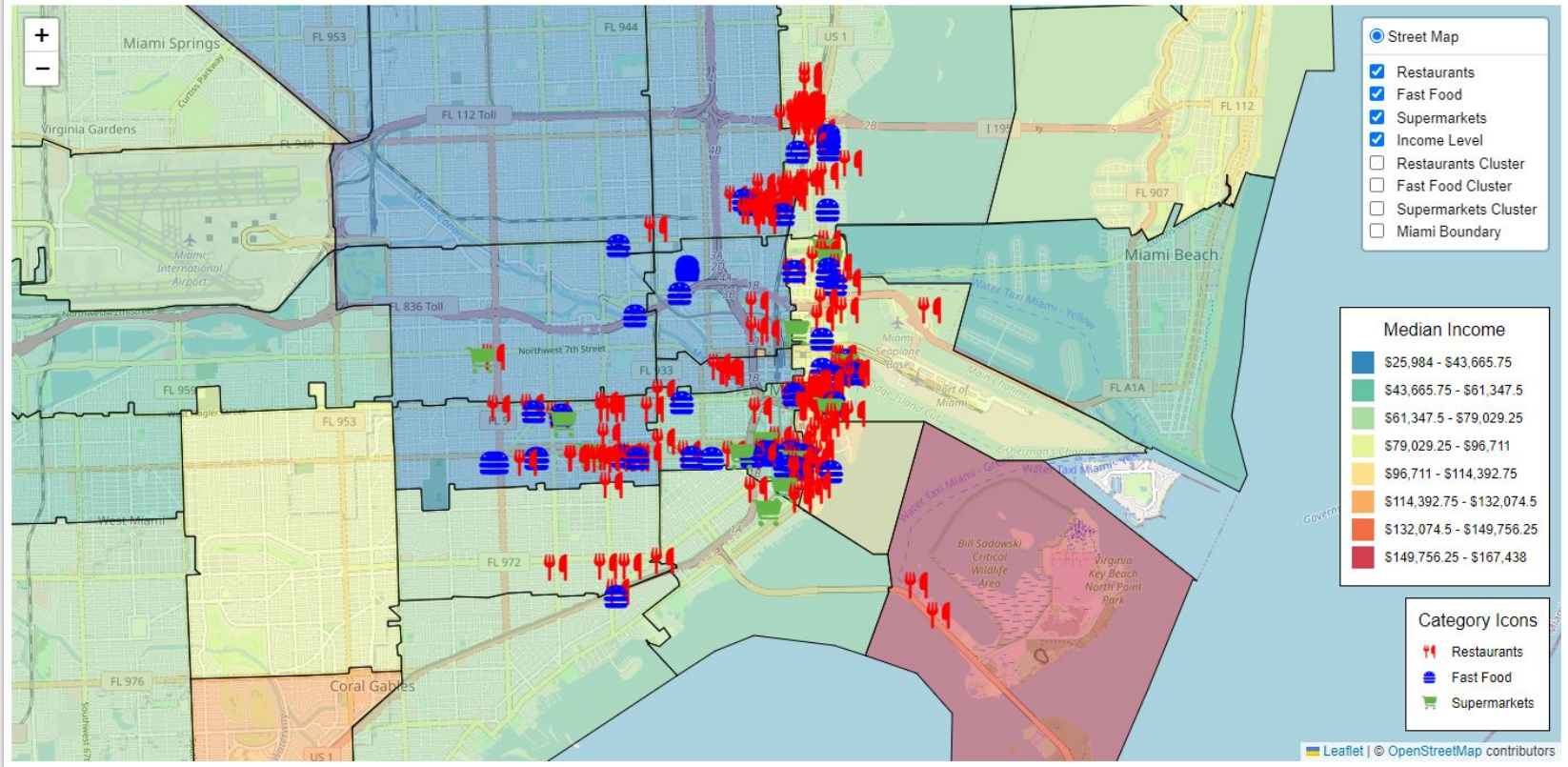


Image of City of Miami, found in Miami-Dade County, with layers applied.

Group 5 - Project 3

Food Deserts in Miami, Florida

[API Links](#)

[Map of Locations](#)

[Data Visualizations](#)

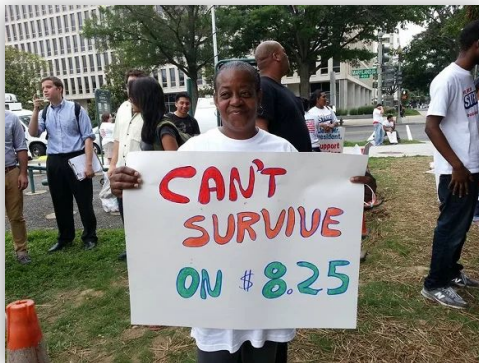
Background image courtesy of pixabay.com

All of this info can be found on our webpage!

Conclusion

Based on our findings we believe that income disparity and lack of access for healthy food is present in Miami. In order to solve this problem local and state government must work together to promote economic equity and increase food access in low-income communities.

This could include increasing minimum wage, providing equitable access to higher education and job training, affordable housing initiatives, and increasing funding for community gardens as well as farmers markets. The introduction of local grocery stores is also necessary to combat this issue paired with better transit to these stores.



Further Research

Due to the complexity of food deserts, further research is needed to fully understand the causes to create necessary changes in the future.

Topics that should be explored to meet the unique needs of communities in Miami include data on the race and ethnicity of those affected, education levels, time availability, transit accessibility, and availability of culturally appropriate food could be examined. More extensive data collection can help foster a more sustainable, healthy, and equitable future for Miami residents.



Questions?

Big thanks to our instructional team for all their help!

References and Photo Credit

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