**Project Report**

Hypothesis: I set out to prove there is a direct correlation between food deserts, wealth of the individual states in the U.S. and Low-Income Tracts. (A low-income census tract indicates that the tract median family income of the households or residents in the census tract are below 50% of the HUD area median income for the larger metropolitan statistical area (MSA) where the census tract is located).

Extract: I pulled my original data sources from kaggle.com as CSV files. I also used two other websites, merely for informational purposes, in support of my hypothesis.

Transform: Cleaning of the different columns in the main CSV file: food\_access\_research\_atlas, was an important step in this process, as it helped narrow down the most relevant data I wanted to examine.

Load: The topic of food deserts was chosen as it received limited media coverage over the years but has been inadvertently brought into the spotlight due to the pandemic and the interruption in the global and domestic supply chain. Based on some of the data utilized for this project listed below, the one outlier that appeared on both the low-income and wealthiest states lists was California. As the 3rd largest state in the U.S. by total area (square miles), one explanation is that there are pockets of low-income tracts in this state, despite its overall wealth and resources.

Top 10 Low-Income Tracts 10 Richest States in America as of 5/2019

1. *California* 1. Maryland

2. Texas 2. New Jersey

3. Florida 3. Hawaii

4. New York 4. Massachusetts

5. Illinois 5. Connecticut

6. Ohio 6. New Hampshire

7. Pennsylvania 7. Alaska

8. Georgia 8. *California*

9. North Carolina 9. Virginia

10. Michigan 10. Washington

**Sources**:

1.) kaggle.com

<https://www.kaggle.com/tcrammond/food-access-and-food-deserts>

2.) Find CRA Learning Center

<https://www.learncra.com/knowledge-base/what-is-considered-low-or-moderate-income-or-lmi/#:~:text=A%20low-income%20census%20tract%20indicates%20that%20the%20tract,area%20%28MSA%29%20where%20the%20census%20tract%20is%20located>.

3.) US News & World Report

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/slideshows/10-wealthiest-states-in-america?slide=10>