

Project 2 Proposal
The Frozen Section:
Analyzing the lack of fresh food grocers in Atlanta

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Discussion:

Food Desert, as commonly referred to, is an urban term used to describe low income areas where fresh food is not easily accessible. Families who live in these areas are unable to provide their children with meals that meet daily dietary restrictions. According to a 2015 article written by the AJC, nearly 2 million Georgia residents, including about 500,000 children, live in food desert areas. In order to be considered a food desert area, the nearest supermarket must be over a mile of distance. These high numbers of Georgia residents who live in food desert areas hit home to our group and thus were the motivation behind wanting to understand what was considered when selecting supermarket locations in the Atlanta area.

Could it be possible that in order to have a supermarket vs a convenience store in food desert areas have anything to do with specific criterias not met? Furthermore, are there other considerations not mentioned that play a part as to why supermarkets are not within the 1 mile radius in these food desert areas?

Statement of Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to visualize the relationship between various demographic characteristics and access to fresh and healthy food, via local grocery stores. This visualization will leverage economic development data, particularly the development of grocery stores, and various demographic elements, such as education level and income.

Items for Research:

- Education and salary demographics for the different areas in Atlanta
- Grocery store locations in the city of Atlanta
- Classification of grocery stores in the city of Atlanta

Data Sources:

- 1) Grocery Store Locations
 - a) Source: Google Places API
 - b) Type: JSON
- 2) Educational Attainment (by Atlanta City Council Districts) 2018
 - a) Source:
<https://gisdata.fultoncountyga.gov/datasets/GARC::educational-attainment-by-atlanta-city-council-districts-2018>
 - b) Type: GeoJSON
- 3) Income (by Neighborhood Planning Unit) 2018
 - a) Source:
https://opendata.atlantaregional.com/datasets/c37db76753d34f89b589eac61e02203f_120
 - b) Type: GeoJSON
- 4) Educational Attainment by Zip Code 2017
 - a) Source: Census Bureau
 - b) Type: CSV
- 5) Individual Income Tax Returns: Selected Income and Tax Items by State, ZIP Code, and Size of Adjusted Gross Income, Tax Year 2017
 - a) Source: <https://www.irs.gov/>
 - b) Type: XML Spreadsheet

Assumptions:

- “Food Deserts” will occur in places with lower educational attainment and income
- Convenience stores may be labeled as grocery stores in our grocery store location search