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DATA 608 Final Project Proposal

Spring 2022

# Topic

Food Waste and Access to Food

Many families in the US are not able to afford to purchase an adequate supply of food for their household and they sacrifice quality in order to save money. The US also known to waste a large amount of food. How much of that wasted food could have been donated to families? Would the amount of food that is thrown away be enough to feed these families? Do we already have enough food to feed everyone?

Some cities have programs that collect good food before it is expired to distribute to families. How many of these programs exists? Where are the distribution sites relative to the neighborhoods that would benefit the most from the food? My hope is that the data proves that there is enough food for all and no family should go hungry.

# Data Source

[Income and Poverty in the US: 2020](https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2021/demo/income-poverty/p60-273.html)

* Household income, poverty thresholds, household composition (race, gender, size)

[Food Security of US Households in 2020](https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-u-s/key-statistics-graphics/)

* Food Security Status of U.S. Households in 2020
* Food Security Status of U.S. Households with Children in 2020

[Food Loss and Waste Database](https://www.fao.org/platform-food-loss-waste/flw-data/en/)

* What food is being lost and where

[Food Distribution Programs](https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/food-distribution-program-tables)

* List of programs throughout the US that distribute free food to families in need.

# Relevant Policy, Business, Social Justice Issue

Food scarcity, poverty, and food waste.

# Technologies for Analysis

I would like to have an interactive plot using D3. The user should be able to drill down on a map by state and county to see where the most food is being wasted and have this information overlap with a visual of population, family size, and household income.

If a static visualization is needed then I will use ggplot.