FOOD APS analysis

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abstract

Our project analyzes the discrepancies between different communities in their access to food products. Different communities are located next to varying types and qualities of food sources. Community access to different food types has correlations with race, ethnicity, income, disabilities, rurality and their participation in food assistance programs. We have found that poorer communities tend to have less food choices and tend to rely more on low quality foods. Some low income communities have to travel significant distances before they can even get to a grocery store. There are also similarities between race and ethnicity and low income communities. Poorer communities tend to be homogenous with a specific ethnicity group and there are correlations with food accessibility. Rural communities, poor and rich, also tend to have varying levels of accessibility to quality food and a variety of options. Some have to travel over 30 miles before they are able to come to a supermarket due to their location. Poorer communities also tend to have members who are on government food assistance programs and there are correlations between the quality of food they have access to and the options. Mainly we focus on the varying levels of food options available for any household and community, and we focus on the quality of food that is available in these communities. There are strong correlations between wealth, ethnicity, disabilities and food accessibility. Through the understanding of these discrepancies, city planners and government officials could make better decisions about the placement of food providers to provide better equity.

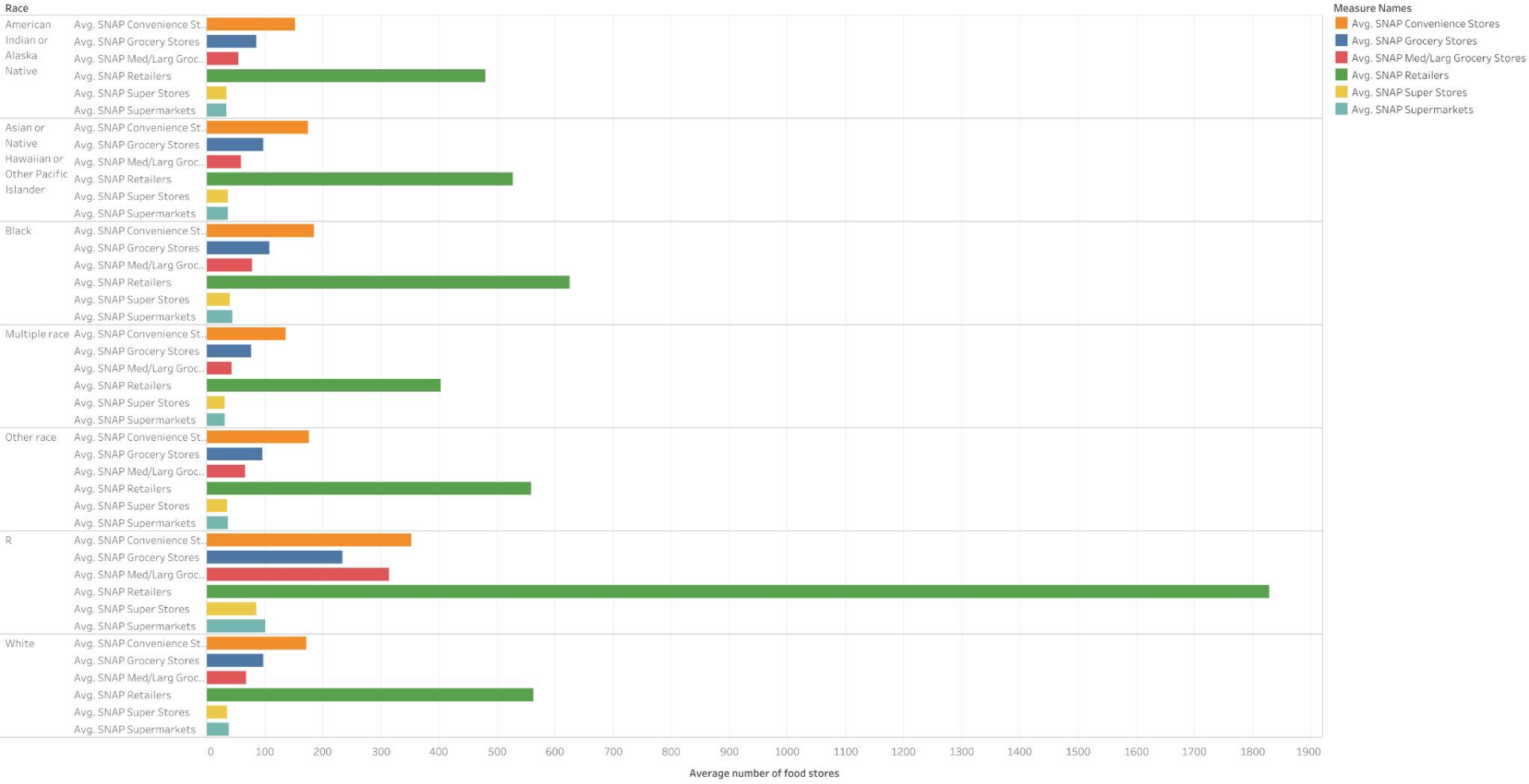
food access impact on race

On average, those who did not specify race had the highest national average access to more food choices and healthier food choices.

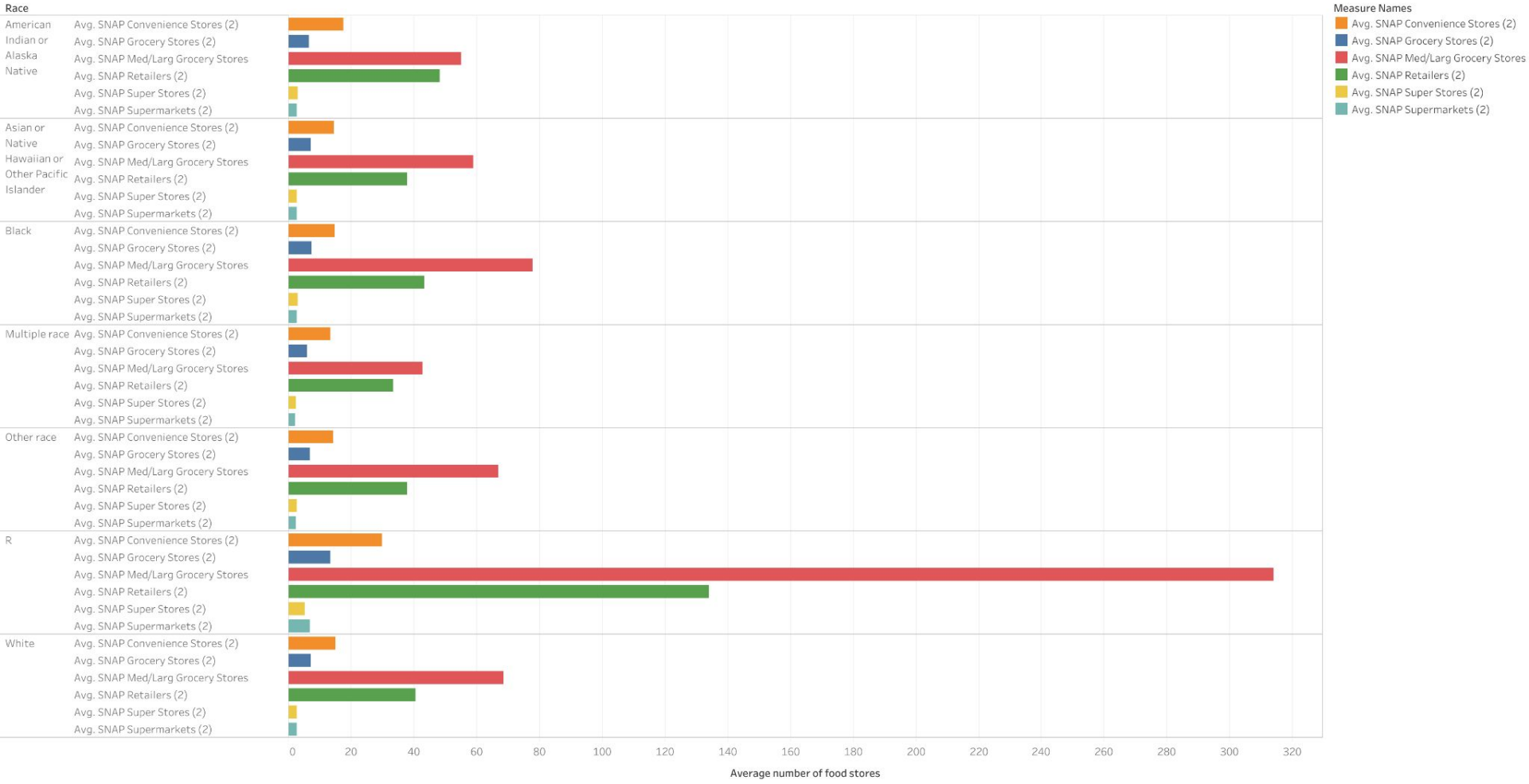
Mixed race neighborhoods and Native American populations had some of the lowest access to different food choices.

Every demographic had *equal access* to two supermarkets within two miles of them

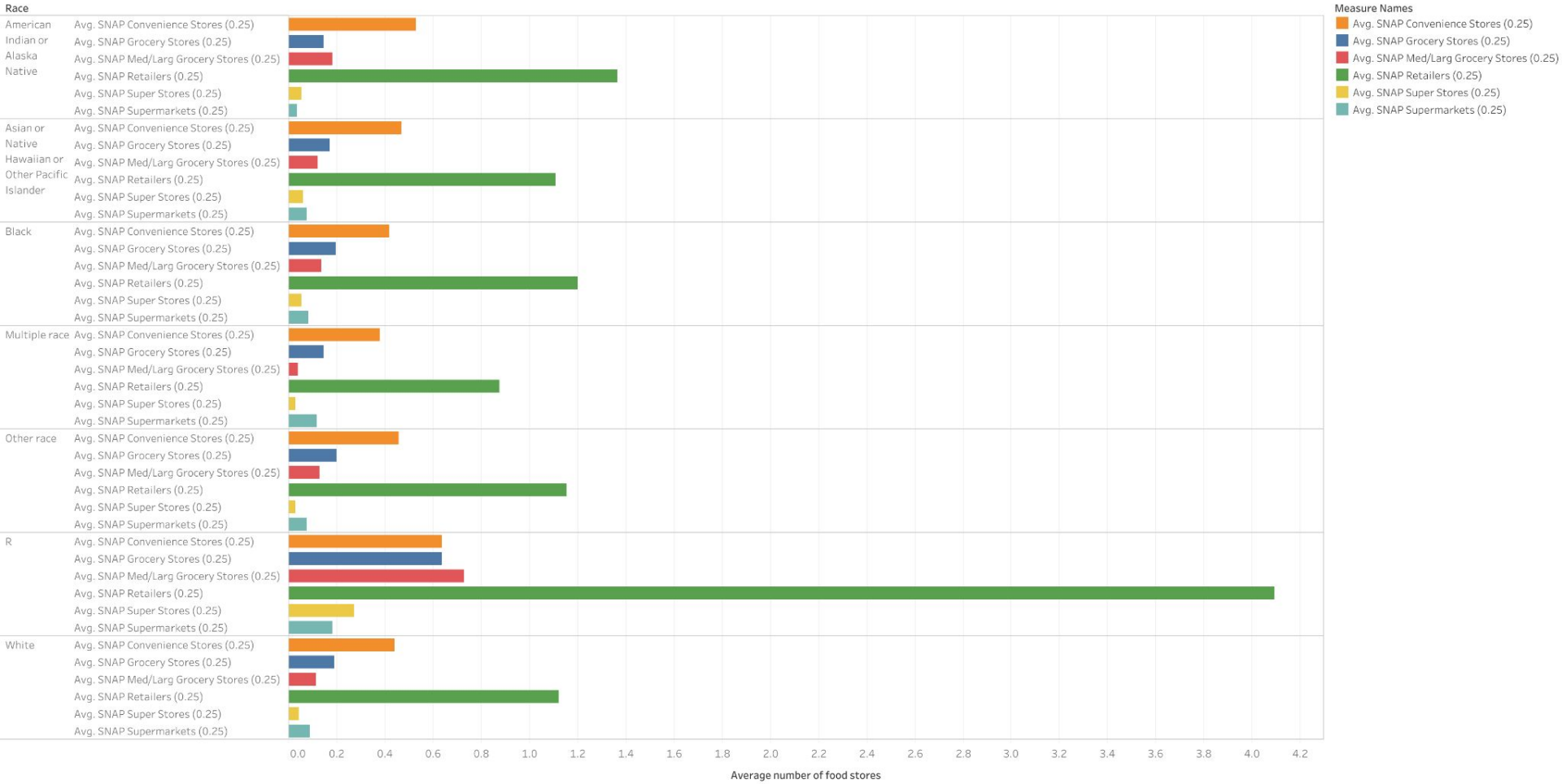
Race vs. Access within 10 miles



Race vs. Access within 2 miles



Race vs. Access within 0.25 miles



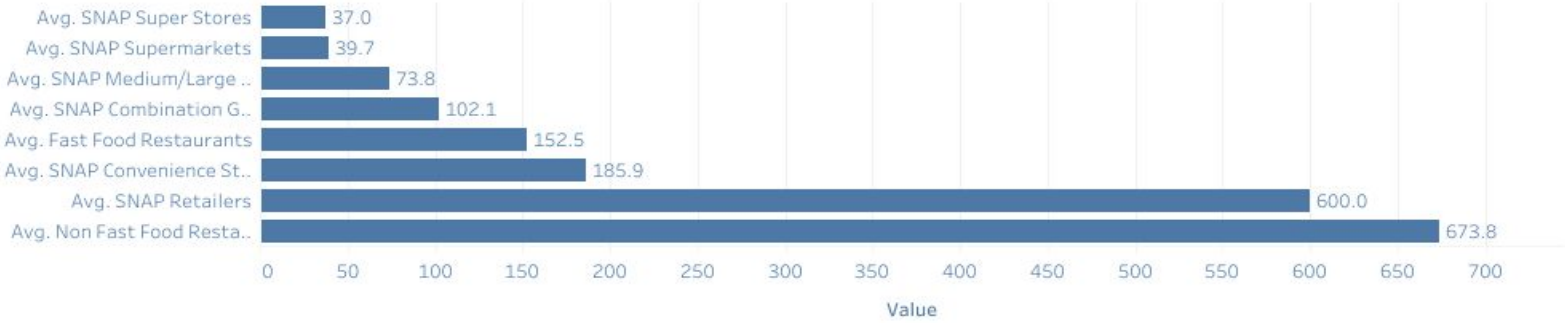
food access impact on income

On average, poorest neighborhoods *had access to 12 more* medium to large scale supermarkets than the richest neighborhoods.

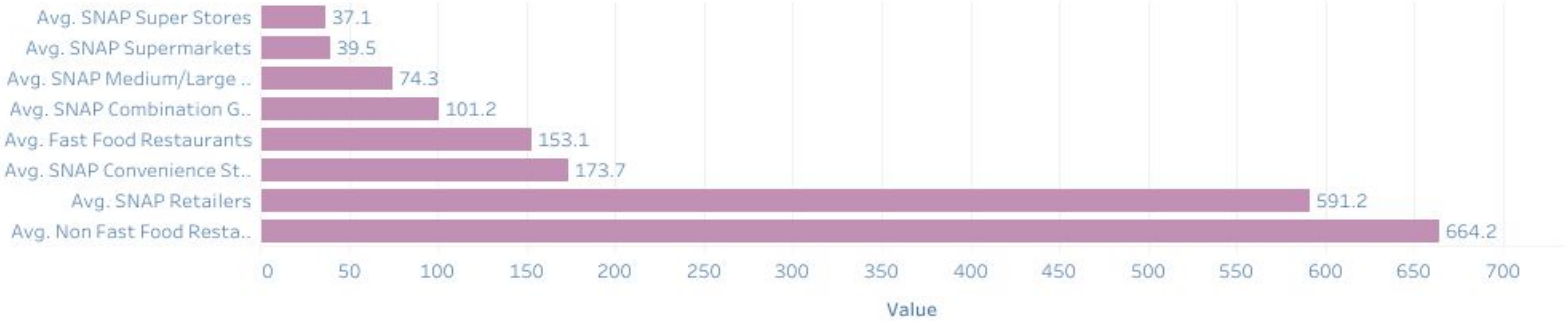
Poorest neighborhoods actually *had the least access to unhealthy fast food restaurants* vs middle income families but less than the richest neighborhoods.

Lowest income households also had access to the largest variety of non fast food restaurants.

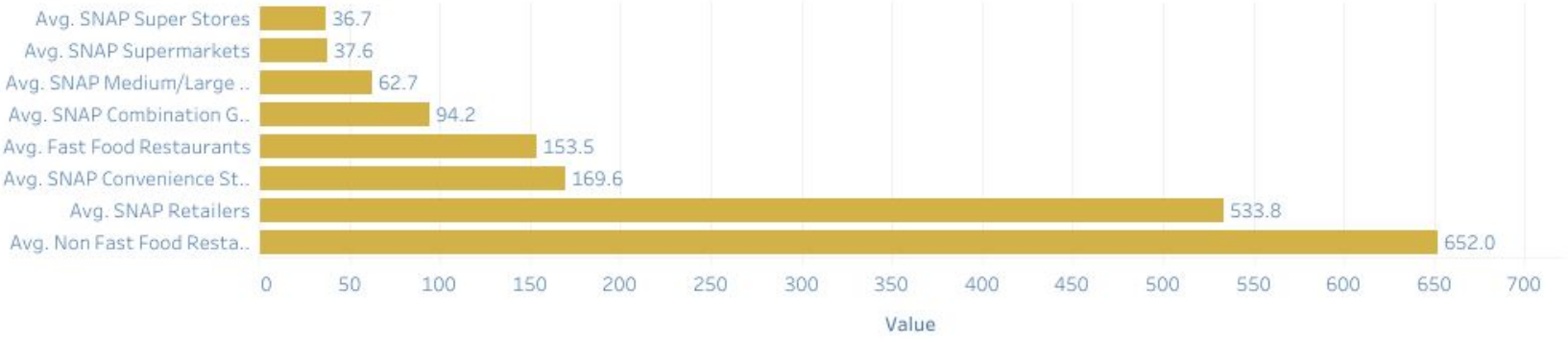
Income <$15K Vs. Access Within 10 Miles



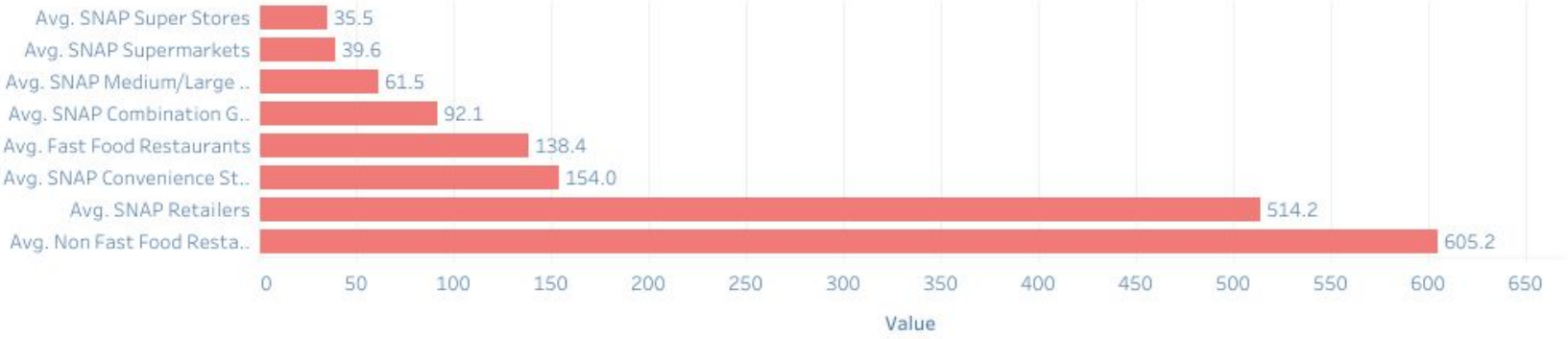
Income of $15K-30K vs. Food Access within 10 Miles



Income of $30K-60K vs. Food Access within 10 Miles



Income of >$60K vs. Food Access Within 10 Miles



food access impact on rurality

Rural communities are impacted most by food choices and quality food.

Average of 700 less grocery stores within 10 miles of rural communities.

Over 70 less medium to large grocery stores.

Difficult challenge due to distance and low density population as compared to a city.

rurality and food access