

A REPORT
FOR THE

SEGMENTATION OF STATISTICS CANADA'S PROXIMITY MEASURES

June 2023

Ricky Heinrich
Noman Mohammad
Avishek Saha
Jonah Edmundson

Statistics Canada Liaison - Jérôme Blanchet, Bjenk Ellefsen
UBCO Project Supervisor - His Excellency Dr. Firas Moosvi

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Background	2
3	Data	4
3.1	Primary Dataset	4
3.2	Missing Values	4
3.3	Other Data	5
4	Methods	6
4.1	Data Exploration	6
4.2	Clustering Tendency	6
4.3	Quintiles	6
4.4	Minima Identification	6
4.5	Clustering	6
5	Results	9
5.1	Data Exploration	9
5.2	Clustering Tendency	12
5.3	Quintiles	13
5.4	Minima Identification	13
5.5	Clustering	14
6	Analysis	17
6.1	Comparison of Approaches	17
6.2	Interpretation of Cluster Profiles	17
7	Discussion	18
8	Limitations	19
9	Future Work	19
10	Conclusion	20
11	References	21
A	Appendix	22
A.1	Analysis of Amenities	22
A.2	Successful Methods	22
A.3	Unsuccessful Methods	25
A.4	Extra Plots and Tables	29

List of Figures

1	Proximity Measures Data Viewer	2
2	Number of cluster selection	7
3	Comparison of distributions	11
4	Primary education VAT plot	12
5	Primary education sort plot	13
6	Primary education cutoffs	14
7	Primary education profile barplot	16
8	Boxplots of outliers	31
9	Boxplots of log outliers	31
10	Density distributions	32
11	Log density distributions	32
12	Sort plots	33
13	Log sort plots	33
14	Employment VAT plot	34
15	Pharmacy VAT plot	34
16	Child care VAT plot	35
17	Health care VAT plot	35
18	Grocery VAT plot	36
19	Secondary education VAT plot	36
20	Library VAT plot	37
21	Parks VAT plot	37
22	Transit VAT plot	38
23	Employment cutoffs	38
24	Pharmacy cutoffs	39
25	Child care cutoffs	39
26	Health care cutoffs	40
27	Grocery cutoffs	40
28	Secondary education cutoffs	41
29	Library cutoffs	41
30	Parks cutoffs	42
31	Transit cutoffs	42
32	Employment profile barplot	43
33	Pharmacy profile barplot	43
34	Child care profile barplot	44
35	Health care profile barplot	44
36	Grocery profile barplot	45
37	Secondary education profile barplot	45
38	Library profile barplot	46
39	Parks profile barplot	46
40	Transit profile barplot	47

List of Tables

1	Missing value symbols	4
2	Missing data	9
4	Summary of categorical variables	9
3	Summary table	11
5	Number of outliers	12
6	Number of clusters by approach	15
7	Primary education validation metrics	15
8	Primary education cluster profiles	15
9	Data dictionary	29
10	Log summary table	30
11	Employment cluster profiles	47
12	Pharmacy cluster profiles	48
13	Child care cluster profiles	48
14	Health care cluster profiles	49
15	Grocery cluster profiles	49
16	Secondary education cluster profiles	50
17	Library cluster profiles	50
18	Parks cluster profiles	51
19	Transit cluster profiles	51
20	Employment validation metrics	52
21	Pharmacy validation metrics	52
22	Child care validation metrics	52
23	Health care validation metrics	52
24	Grocery validation metrics	52
25	Secondary education validation metrics	53
26	Library validation metrics	53
27	Parks validation metrics	53
28	Transit validation metrics	53

1 Introduction

Each individual lives somewhere and inhabits physical space. Unless one lives completely removed from others, amenities such as schools, places of employment, and healthcare facilities are usually present in the built environment. These amenities serve to make residents' lives better, and their distribution is often the result of careful policy and planning by governing bodies. Like people, they inhabit physical space, and not everybody is equidistant from them. As Alasia et al. (2021) outline, "having physical access to basic services and amenities is a key determinant of social inclusion, their capacity to meet basic needs, and their ability to fully participate in social and economic development." Therefore, it is imperative for these governing bodies to make deliberate, well-informed decisions as to the location of new amenities and services.

The Proximity Measure Database (PMD) developed by the Data Exploration and Integration Lab (DEIL) at Statistics Canada serves to provide a granular measure of proximity to services and amenities to inform planning and policy questions (Alasia et al., 2021). The PMD contains continuous measures for 10 amenities at a 'dissemination block' (DB) level, the most granular area defined by StatCan (Statistics Canada, 2021). In an urban area, a DB corresponds to a city block, whereas in rural regions they are areas "bounded by roads or other natural features" (Alasia et al., 2021). Thus, DBs differ broadly in their size as well as in their proximity to these amenities.

The goal of this project is to explore segmentation of the continuous proximity measures in the StatCan PMD by using various clustering methods. Segmenting these continuous proximity measures into distinct groups will result in a more intuitive and understandable categorical measure, which may be advantageous in future research. For example, instead of working with individual continuous values, policymakers and urban planners can now utilize the categorized proximity measures to inform their decision-making process. This categorization enables them to prioritize efforts effectively to enhance access and promote social and economic sustainability within communities. In this report, we outline the methodologies used to explore segmentation of the continuous proximity measures, the robustness of the group boundaries, and the characteristics of the groups.

The two specific research questions we aimed to address in the project are:

1. What are the optimal cut-off values and cluster boundaries for each amenity proximity measure determined by the most appropriate clustering algorithm in the PMD?
2. What distinctive characteristics define each cluster of dissemination blocks, and how do these features contribute to both heterogeneity between clusters and homogeneity within each cluster? (Characteristics include: proximity measures, Census Metropolitan Area type, DB population, Index of Remoteness, and provincial breakdown.)

2 Background

The methodology used to generate the PMD is presented in *Measuring proximity to services and amenities: An experimental set of indicators for neighbourhoods and localities*, by Alasia et. al with Statistics Canada. Accompanying this report is the Proximity Measures Data Viewer, an online mapping application that allows users to view proximity measures by DB for a selected amenity. The continuous measure is segmented by quintiles and assigned a colour, as shown in Figure 1, giving a user a rough idea of proximity differences between DBs. For this reason, we used the ‘quintile method’ as our base model in this project.

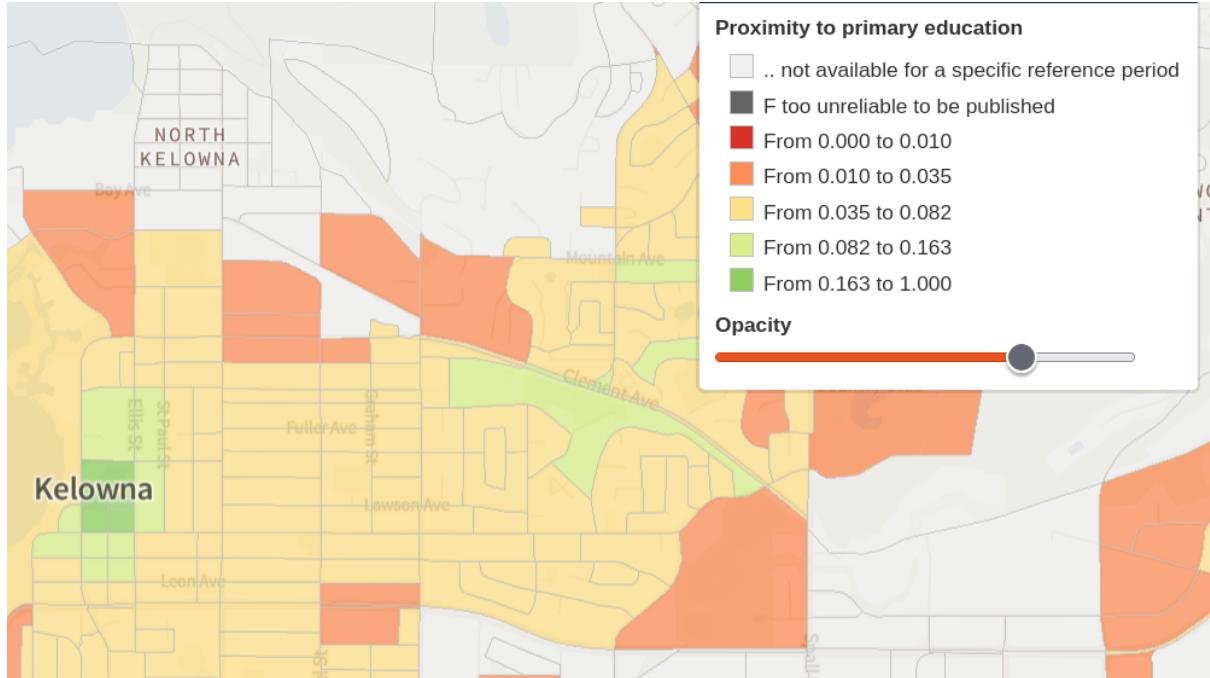


Figure 1: Statistics Canada’s Proximity Measures Data Viewer showing the proximity to the primary education amenity in Kelowna’s (BC) downtown sector.

A ‘sister’ measure to the PMD is the Index of Remoteness, whose creation is outlined in *Measuring remoteness and accessibility - A set of indices for Canadian communities* by Alasia et. al. A key factor affecting socioeconomic and health outcomes is geographic proximity to population and service centers. As a result, it is an important factor to consider when analyzing and implementing policies and programmes. Statistics Canada developed an Index of Remoteness of communities to measure this factor. The distance to all the population centers (defined by Statistics Canada as areas with a population of at least 1000 and no fewer than 400 person per square kilometers) in a given travel radius, as well as their population size, are taken into account when calculating the index for each populated community (census subdivisions) (Government of Canada, Statistics Canada, 2023). This index was generated as a continuous measure, which was then cut into categories, as outlined in *Developing Meaningful Categories for Distinguishing Levels of Remoteness in Canada* by Subedi et. al. They present five approaches to categorize the continuous measure, which included methods like Jenks natural breaks, k-means, and quintile classification. They aimed to examine various ways to group the continuous remoteness index values of Canadian CSDs into meaningful categories (Government of Canada, Statistics Canada et al., 2020b, August 11). This is similar to our goal of categorizing the continuous proximity measures of amenities.

The Jenks natural breaks classification and k-means classification techniques are examples of distribution based and centroid based techniques, respectively. Another type of clustering

techniques that may be appropriate for our project are density based methods (Geospatial Analysis 6th Edition, 2021 Update - De Smith, Goodchild, Longley and Colleagues, 2021). As Kassambara, a Bioinformatics R&D Scientist at Veracytes, outlines in his self-published book, the selection of an appropriate clustering technique depends on the nature of the data under investigation. He explains how before applying clustering techniques, it is crucial to assess the clustering tendency to ensure meaningful results, as clustering algorithms may identify clusters even in cases where no clear clusters exist in the data. Additionally, determining the optimal number of clusters is a vital step in the process. Once clustering techniques have been applied, it is important to evaluate their performance using cluster validation statistics such as the silhouette coefficient, Dunn index, and Xie-Beni index. These metrics assist in identifying the most suitable clustering technique for the given data. By considering these factors, researchers can make informed decisions and select the appropriate clustering methodology for specific analysis (Kassambara, 2017b).

3 Data

3.1 Primary Dataset

The primary dataset of interest for this study is the Proximity Measure Database (PMD), available online and provided by the DEIL at Statistics Canada. The PMD contains continuous numerical proximity measures for 10 amenities, namely: employment, grocery stores, pharmacies, health care, child care, primary education, secondary education, public transit, neighborhood parks, and libraries, for every dissemination block (DB) in Canada within a select radius.

The proximity measures are based on a gravity model that accounts for the distance between a reference DB and all the DBs within a given distance in which the service is available. The proximity measures also take into account the size of services, and the presence of services in the reference DB. The proximity measures are released as a normalized index value, meaning that the values resulting from computations were converted to a scale from 0 to 1, where 0 indicates the lowest proximity, and 1 indicates the highest proximity. When considering a maximum travel radius, the proximity level can be seen as the quantity of service relative to the distance traveled (Alasia et al., 2021). These measures are considered a reliable way to assess local access to various amenities (OECD 2018). The data dictionary for this dataset can be found in Figure 9 of the appendix.

3.2 Missing Values

Statistics Canada uses a specific convention for representing different types of missing values. Table 1 shows the standard symbols that are used by Statistics Canada. The symbols present in the PMD are ‘..’ and ‘F’.

Table 1: Missing value symbol convention from Statistics Canada.

Symbol	Meaning
.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
F	too unreliable to be published

Values “too unreliable to be published” are most likely due to missing data in the many data sources used to construct the PMD, like Business Register, or other authoritative open data sources, such as the Linkable Open Data Environment, the Open Database of Educational Facilities and the General Transit Feed Specification.

Data that is ‘not available’ for a DB is the result of that DB being out of scope: while producing the PMD, the authors considered a maximum travel radius for each amenity, as a mean to reduce computational complexity as well as to “reflect the fact that there is an upper limit to how far a person will likely travel for most services” (Alasia et. Al, 2021). The authors assigned “..” when no amenity was available within a given travel radius for a select DB. As a result, not every DB has proximity values for amenities.

In summary, data points may be unavailable either because the supporting databases are incomplete, or because there is no access to the amenity within the specified travel radius. The fact that a sizable portion of DBs don’t have an associated proximity measure is not a concern for this project, as we want to segment the measures that are within the scope set by the authors of the PMD and we are focused on the clustering methodology rather than the exact summary statistics of the clusters themselves.

3.3 Other Data

We linked the Index of Remoteness (IoR) dataset to the PMD to add to the cluster profile analysis. This dataset includes a continuous numeric remoteness score for each census subdivision (CSD) in Canada. The IoR is equal to zero for the least remote CSD and equal to one for the most remote CSD.

4 Methods

We started with an exploratory data analysis to familiarize ourselves with the data and learn its characteristics. We used R and the `tidyverse` package to handle and analyze the data. Concurrently, we researched clustering algorithms and validation metrics. We moved on to evaluating clustering tendencies of each amenity to assess the natural susceptibility of the data to grouping. Then, we applied various algorithms to each amenity as well as investigated ‘intuitive’ categorizing methods, such as ‘quintiles’ and identifying minima. For each of these methods, computational restraints prevented clustering analyses on the entire dataset. Instead, 3% subsampling was used to ensure that the algorithms would run successfully and within a reasonable timeframe. We then validated the clusters using the `ClusterCrit` package. We profiled the resulting clusters for each technique to evaluate the results and their robustness, as well as to gain insights into the characteristics of each cluster. Finally, we made conclusions and recommendations on future work.

4.1 Data Exploration

In order to better understand the structure of the data, we performed an exploratory data analysis (EDA). We analyzed numerical variables (all ten amenities plus DB population) in the PMD using summary statistics, and we counted unique values for categorical variables. We also visualized the distributions of each of the ten amenities using density plots, both before and after a log-transformation (an epsilon value of 0.0001 was added prior to log-transforming in order to avoid infinite values). Finally, we identified outliers via boxplots, validated them using Rosner’s test, and counted them before and after log-transformation.

4.2 Clustering Tendency

We evaluated the clustering tendency of each amenity via Visual Assessment of Tendency (VAT) as well as sort plots. VAT works by plotting the distance matrix between all observations in the dataset. Sort plots highlight natural breaks in a continuous vector by sorting the values and then plotting them by index. We used `fviz_dist` function from the `factoextra` package to produce the VAT plots.

4.3 Quintiles

The quintile method is the current method employed by Statistics Canada to segment the proximity measures in their data viewer. In this method, data are sorted, and then split into 5 groups, each with the same number of observations. This approach is therefore “blind” to the data, since the actual values are not used in the creation of clusters. We considered this approach as the “base model” to which comparisons will be made.

4.4 Minima Identification

This segmentation technique functions by cutting the distribution at select minima of the density distribution. Each minima in the density curves that are flanked by maxima of higher density represent a density sparse region, which may be a ‘natural’ break in the continuous measures. We conducted this non-parametric approach mathematically on the logged transformed data where minima are perceptible.

4.5 Clustering

We explored various clustering techniques, including HDBSCAN, MixAll, K-PAM, VarSelLCM, and OPTICS, to determine possible cutoff values for the amenity proximity measures. We found

that only the results from the HDBSCAN, MixAll, Mclust, and PAM k-means algorithms were appropriate. Summaries of the unsuccessful approaches can be found in section A.2 of the Appendix.

4.5.1 Number of Clusters

In many clustering techniques, the user is typically required to specify the desired number of clusters (k) to be generated (Kassambara, 2017b). To determine the appropriate number of clusters for each clustering technique, various metrics were employed, including the silhouette coefficient, Dunn index, Calinski-Harabasz, and Davies-Bouldin. The number of clusters recommended by the majority of these metrics was ultimately selected and implemented for the specific clustering technique being used.

Figure 2 is an example of a set of internal evaluation schemes values per number of clusters for the MixAll clustering technique applied on the Employment proximity values. The number of clusters suggested by each metric is as follows:

- Silhouette coefficient: 2 clusters
- Dunn index: 3 clusters
- Calinski-Harabasz: 8 clusters
- Davies-Bouldin: 8 clusters

To determine the final number of clusters, the majority recommendation from these metrics was considered. As 8 clusters were suggested by the majority of the metrics, this number was chosen.

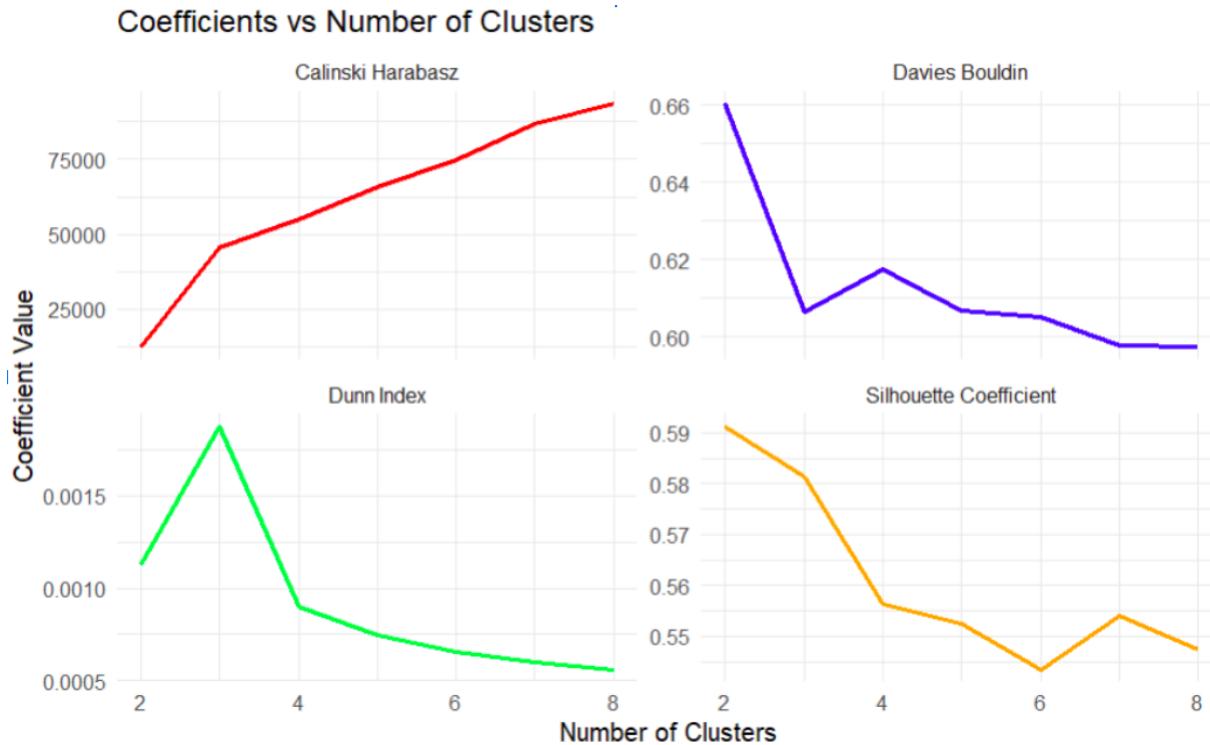


Figure 2: Number of clusters suggested by different metrics for employment amenity in MixAll clustering algorithm. We want to maximize all the metrics except for the Davies-Bouldin, which we want to minimize.

4.5.2 Comparison of Algorithms

Due to the conflicting recommendations from clustering validation metrics, such as silhouette coefficients, Dunn index, Calinski-Harabasz, and Davies-Bouldin, it became challenging to select a single clustering technique for profiling purposes. In light of this challenge, a different approach was adopted.

Instead of relying on a single algorithm for cluster profiling, multiple techniques that had proven effective in the univariate case and produced satisfactory results were utilized. This approach allowed for a more comprehensive exploration of the data and ensured that the clustering results were robust, and not solely dependent on a single technique.

The success of several algorithms may also be compared intuitively by looking at how the cutoff values divide the log-transformed density plots for each amenity. Successful algorithms will find the cutoff values to be near the “troughs” or “density sparse regions” in these density plots, with the clusters themselves being the “peaks” or “dense regions”. Conversely, poorly performing algorithms will miss these troughs by placing the cutoffs randomly or near the peaks.

4.5.3 Cluster Profiles

Following the identification of clusters, an investigation was conducted to examine the profiles of these clusters. This involved comparing various factors, including the number of DBs, median DB population, median IOR, the mode of Census Metropolitan Area type, top province, mode of amenity density, median proximity measure of the clustered amenity, and the corresponding cutoff values.

5 Results

5.1 Data Exploration

5.1.1 Summary Statistics

The PMD contains 489,676 rows, each of which corresponds to a unique DB. Each row contains information about DB population, the encompassing CSD and province, an indicator of amenity density, whether or not the DB is within a census metropolitan area (CMA), plus all of the ten proximity measures. The amenity dense indicator is split into low, medium and high density, with around 5,000 getting an ‘F’ for “too unreliable to be published”. CMA type is divided into four groups: a CMA, not a CMA, a tracted census agglomeration (CA), or an untracted CA (‘tracted’ in this case refers to whether or not the CA has been subdivided into smaller sections for census purposes). In addition, there is an indicator for each of the ten amenities that relates whether or not the amenity in question resides in the same DB for which the proximity is being calculated. Lastly, there is an indicator for whether or not a DB is considered “amenity dense.”

We’ve outlined earlier reasons for which DBs may not have proximity measures. Table 2 shows the amount of DBs that have proximity values for each amenity: Employment has the greatest coverage, at 86.5%, whereas Library has the least at 23%. This may be a result of the set travel radius for Employment being much larger, as it covers 10 driving kilometers, whereas libraries are only searched within 1.5 walking kilometers.

Table 2: Counts and percentages of missing values of numerical variables in the PMD.

	DBs with Data Available	Percentage
Employment	423,602	86.5
Pharmacy	178,521	36.5
Childcare	243,964	49.8
Healthcare	300,465	61.4
Grocery	141,063	28.8
Pri. Educ.	225,359	46.0
Sec. Educ.	141,213	28.8
Library	112,655	23.0
Parks	234,068	47.8
Transit	181,305	37.0
DB Pop.	487,526	99.6

Table 3 shows the summary statistics for the numerical variables in the PMD, while Table 4 shows the counts for each type of the categorical variables. We see that the 90th percentile of the proximity measures for all amenities are values that are much nearer the smaller end of the domain; the largest value is in Primary Education, at 0.233. This is not the only indicator that this measure is unbalanced: the skew and kurtosis values are all relatively high.

Table 4: Summary statistics for categorical variables in the PMD.

Variable	Counts
DBs Per Province	
Alberta	66,749
British Columbia	52,850
Manitoba	30,669
New Brunswick	14,345
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,756
Northwest Territories	1,495

<i>Nova Scotia</i>	15,279
<i>Nunavut</i>	792
<i>Ontario</i>	133,214
<i>Prince Edward Island</i>	3,639
<i>Quebec</i>	106,251
<i>Saskatchewan</i>	54,118
<i>Yukon</i>	1,519
CMA Type	
<i>CMA (B)</i>	206,709
<i>Untracted CA (D)</i>	53,061
<i>Tracted CA (K)</i>	16,992
<i>Not a CMA or CA</i>	212,914
Amenity Dense	
<i>Low Density (0)</i>	442,179
<i>Medium Density (1)</i>	37,303
<i>High Density (2)</i>	4,827
<i>Too unreliable to publish (F)</i>	5,367
Suppressed	
<i>Not suppressed (0)</i>	484,309
<i>Info. Suppressed (1)</i>	5,367

5.1.2 Distributions

The distributions of the proximity scores for all amenities are heavily right-skewed, with the majority of the values being grouped around zero. These distributions then appear to decay smoothly. The strong right-skew results from a relatively small number of high access outliers, which influences the distribution when the measures are normalized. Figure 3 shows the comparison of the density distributions before and after log-transformation. Figures 10 and 11 in section A.4 of the Appendix show these same distributions for all ten amenities. We can already see that the log-transformed distributions are better because the distribution of the proximity values are more normally distributed, and density sparse regions are now visible. Box-Cox and Arcsine transformations were also attempted, but did not yield distributions that were as consistently normally-distributed as those that were log-transformed. It is important to note that log-transforming the proximity measures does not change the structure of the data. In other words, a particular DB ‘A’ in the non-log-transformed data with less proximity than another DB ‘B’ will still have less proximity in the log-transformed data. Statistical summary table 3 for the log-transformed data can be found in section A.4 of the Appendix as table 10. In contrast, the skew and kurtosis values for the logged data are much smaller, which proves that the log-transformation was successful in reducing the extreme right skew of these proximity values.

Table 3: Summary statistics of numerical variables in the PMD.

	Employment	Pharmacy	Childcare	Healthcare	Grocery	Pri. Educ.	Sec. Educ.	Library	Parks	Transit	DB Pop.
1 Dec.	1e-04	0.0075	0.0079	2e-04	0.0144	0.0319	0.0374	0.0508	0.0127	0.0011	0
2 Dec.	4e-04	0.0098	0.0152	7e-04	0.0221	0.0416	0.0421	0.0558	0.0203	0.0026	0
3 Dec.	0.0013	0.0146	0.0241	0.0018	0.0289	0.0582	0.0485	0.0624	0.0278	0.0045	5
4 Dec.	0.003	0.0193	0.0348	0.0032	0.0348	0.072	0.0586	0.0707	0.0372	0.0067	16
5 Dec.	0.0065	0.0256	0.0476	0.005	0.0434	0.09	0.0745	0.0814	0.0481	0.0094	29
6 Dec.	0.0127	0.0341	0.0636	0.0074	0.0555	0.1105	0.091	0.096	0.0614	0.0131	45
7 Dec.	0.0217	0.0457	0.0846	0.0111	0.0719	0.1366	0.1141	0.1168	0.0793	0.0184	66
8 Dec.	0.0368	0.0641	0.1167	0.0184	0.0985	0.172	0.1492	0.1488	0.105	0.0272	100
9 Dec.	0.0726	0.0983	0.1751	0.0343	0.154	0.233	0.2128	0.2106	0.1494	0.0442	173
Min.	0	0	0	0	1e-04	4e-04	5e-04	1e-04	0	0	0
Median	0.0065	0.0256	0.0476	0.005	0.0434	0.09	0.0745	0.0814	0.0481	0.0094	29
Mean	0.02541	0.04438	0.07584	0.01372	0.06991	0.11617	0.104	0.11462	0.0692	0.01805	72
Max.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7607
Std. Dev.	0.0491	0.0579	0.0874	0.0279	0.0783	0.0917	0.0869	0.0978	0.0685	0.027	146
Skew	4.656	4.555	2.807	7.041	3.201	1.963	2.462	3.439	2.824	5.692	8
Kurtosis	38.08	37.81	14.82	95.45	17.83	8.72	11.84	18.48	17.2	72.96	152

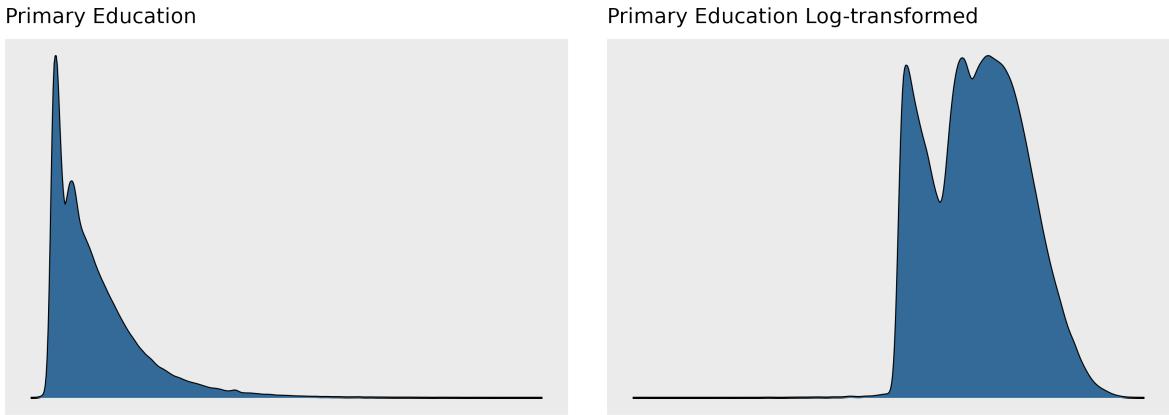


Figure 3: Distribution of the proximity measure to primary education services before and after log-transformation.

Log-transforming the data is critically important to clustering, and helps reveal the underlying structure. Data points near zero in the non-transformed data are “clumped” around particular values, as opposed to being smoothly distributed. This preference for particular values is what creates the miniature peaks that can be seen on the left hand side of the log-transformed density distribution in the employment amenity in Figure 11 of Appendix section A.4. These miniature peaks most likely represent real clusters in the data, and are not simply an artifact of the transformation itself.

Before log-transforming the data, a significant number of outliers were present in the data. Outliers are an issue for most clustering algorithms, since they tend to have a disproportionate impact on the shape of the resulting clusters. The number of outliers was significantly reduced by log-transforming the data, as this reduced the relative distance between points. The reduction in the number of outliers after log-transformation can clearly be seen in table 5 (boxplots for visualizing outliers can be found as figures 8 and 9 in Appendix section A.4). In addition to log-transforming the proximity measures to reduce the number of outliers, statistical modeling techniques that are robust to outliers were chosen for clustering.

Due to the reduction in the number of outliers as well as the improvement in distribution shape (high right skew to quasi-normal), the following clustering analyses were performed on the individual log-transformed measures as opposed to the original measures. For clarity, it is also pertinent to mention that the proximity measures were clustered individually as opposed to being clustered in concert with other variables. This approach was chosen for its simplicity,

Table 5: The number of outliers in each amenity in the PMD before and after log-transformation.

	Counts	Percentages	Log Transformed Counts	Log Transformed Percentages
Employment	45,390	9.27	0	0.00
Pharmacy	13,416	2.74	478	0.10
Childcare	15,397	3.14	140	0.03
Healthcare	31,007	6.33	50	0.01
Grocery	11,904	2.43	794	0.16
Pri. Educ.	10,205	2.08	98	0.02
Sec. Educ.	8,683	1.77	215	0.04
Library	8,867	1.81	2,295	0.47
Parks	12,703	2.59	910	0.19
Transit	14,165	2.89	3,596	0.73

but other multivariate clustering approaches should be attempted in the future.

5.2 Clustering Tendency

The first of the two assessments of clustering tendency was the VAT. In this test, highly clusterable data is visualized having clearly defined rectangles that lie along the diagonal. In contrast, data with low clustering tendency does not have clear rectangles lying along the diagonal, but instead has a jumble of lines and inconsistent colouring. In the VAT plots for the non-transformed data, consistent low clustering tendency is observed. For the log-transformed data, it seems as though the data is semi-clusterable, as there are rectangles, but they are poorly defined and not as distinct as they could be. The VAT plot for the log-transformed proximity measure of the primary education amenity is shown in Figure 4. The VAT plots for the remaining amenities are available in section A.4 of the Appendix.

Primary Education

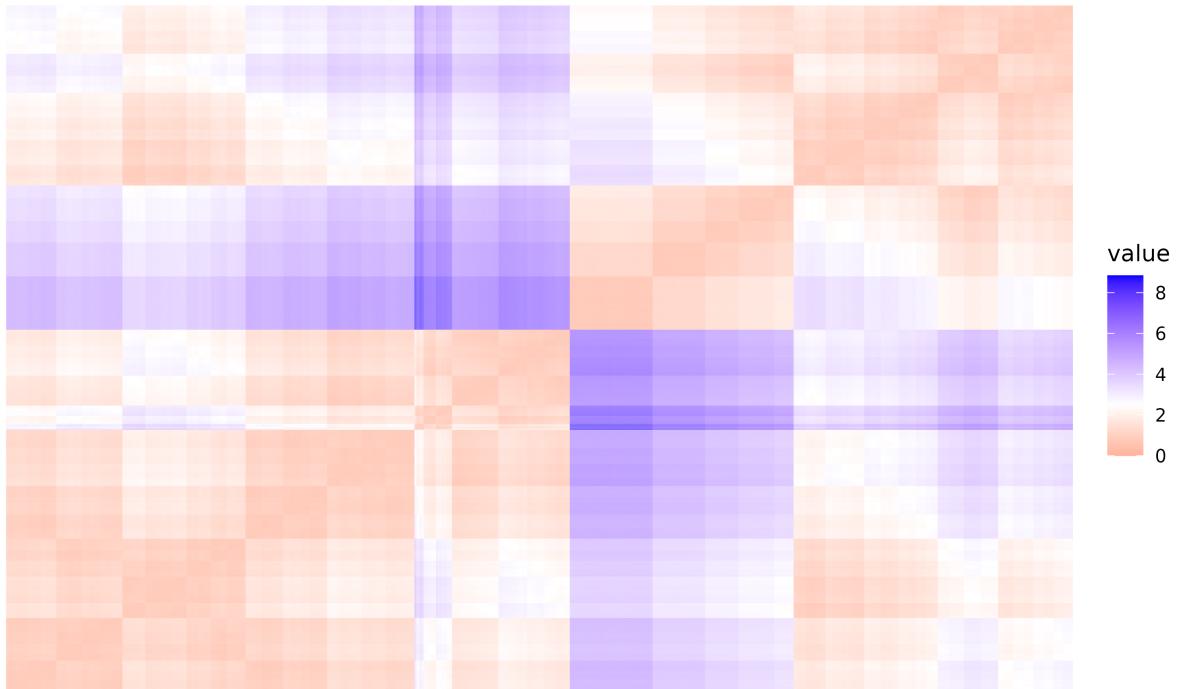


Figure 4: VAT plot results for the log-transformed proximity measure of the primary education amenity.

The second of the two assessments of clustering tendency was sort plots. If a unidimensional dataset is highly clusterable, then the sort plots will show obvious discontinuous points and changes in slope which separate the clusters. However, this is not observed, as is shown in Figure 5. The non-transformed and log-transformed sort plots for the primary education amenity are shown here for an example. Instead of showing obvious breaks, the lines are smooth. This indicates that there are not any obvious clusters in either the non-transformed or log-transformed data. This has implications for the interpretability of our results, as the cutoff points identified between clusters may be sensitive to changes in the data.

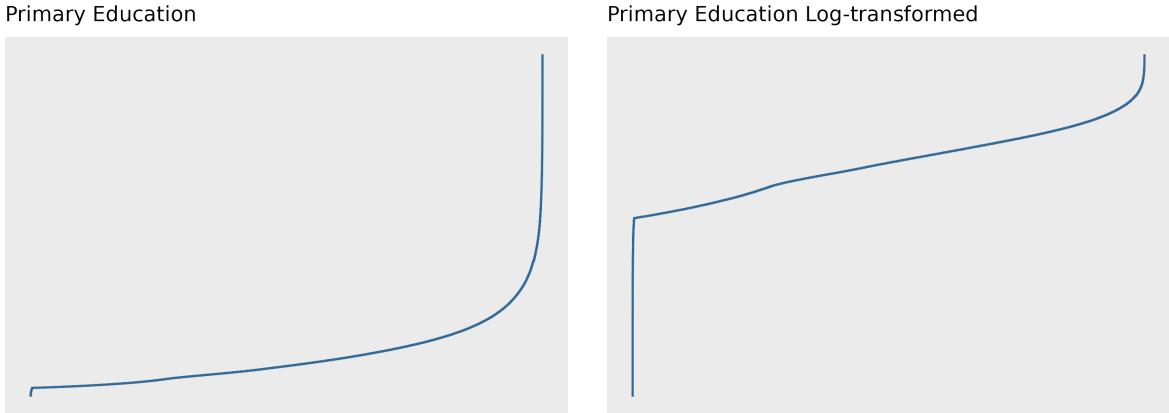


Figure 5: Sort plots of the proximity measure to primary education services before and after log-transformation.

5.3 Quintiles

While easy to understand, the quintile method is a “blind” algorithm, and therefore fails to find good cutoff values. As seen in figure 6, the cutoffs mostly miss the density sparse regions, and are able to find them only in a few cases by mistake.

5.4 Minima Identification

This method is the most intuitive: the minima of the kernel density curves represent density sparse regions, which may be appropriate areas to segment between naturally occurring groups. However, as seen in Figure 6, for many amenities there are large portions of the curve that do not have mathematical minima, resulting in some groups being much larger than others. If choosing cutoff values fully manually, one may choose a point where the curve plateaus or has a flatter slope. Future work may include mathematically finding points where the second derivative changes signs.

We used the `density` function in the `stats` package with the default bandwidth and the default gaussian kernels to create the density curves. Changing the bandwidth of the kernel density has an effect on the results: smaller bandwidths result in more density sparse regions and more minima, whereas greater bandwidths result in ‘flatter’ curves and less minima. Future work should investigate how the size of the bandwidth affects the resulting clusters.

There were many unexpected mathematical minima in the density curves in areas where the density was very small and flat. To retain only the minima that represent density sparse regions amongst regions with higher density, a limiting threshold of 0.001 was set for the difference between neighbouring maxima and minima. Intuitively, if the difference between a local maximum and a local minimum was very small, then the minimum is not representative of a good segmentation point.

Given that the cutoff points selected in this method directly represent density sparse regions, which we intuitively think of as ‘gaps’ between groups, we expect the validation metrics to be better than those for the ‘quintiles’ method. We see that, for example, in the case of the employment amenity, only some of the metrics are better, like the silhouette coefficient and the Dunn index, whilst the Davies-Bouldin and the Calinski-Harabasz actually perform worse. This incongruity is a result of what each of these metrics calculates and represents.

5.5 Clustering

5.5.1 Comparison of Algorithms

We have applied many clustering algorithms, the details of which are outlined in section A.2 of the Appendix. The univariate algorithms that were successful for our data were: MixAll, HBDSCAN, PAM k-means, and MCLUST. Figure 6 shows the plots of the logged-transformed density distributions with the resulting groups coloured for the representative amenity of Primary Education, while Table 6 outlines specifically the number of groups each method suggested. We can already see how most of the time, the cutoff values for the different methods don’t align with each other: each method finds different points where to segment the data. Even when some methods find more groups than others, aggregating some of the smaller groups doesn’t necessarily result in the larger group of another method.

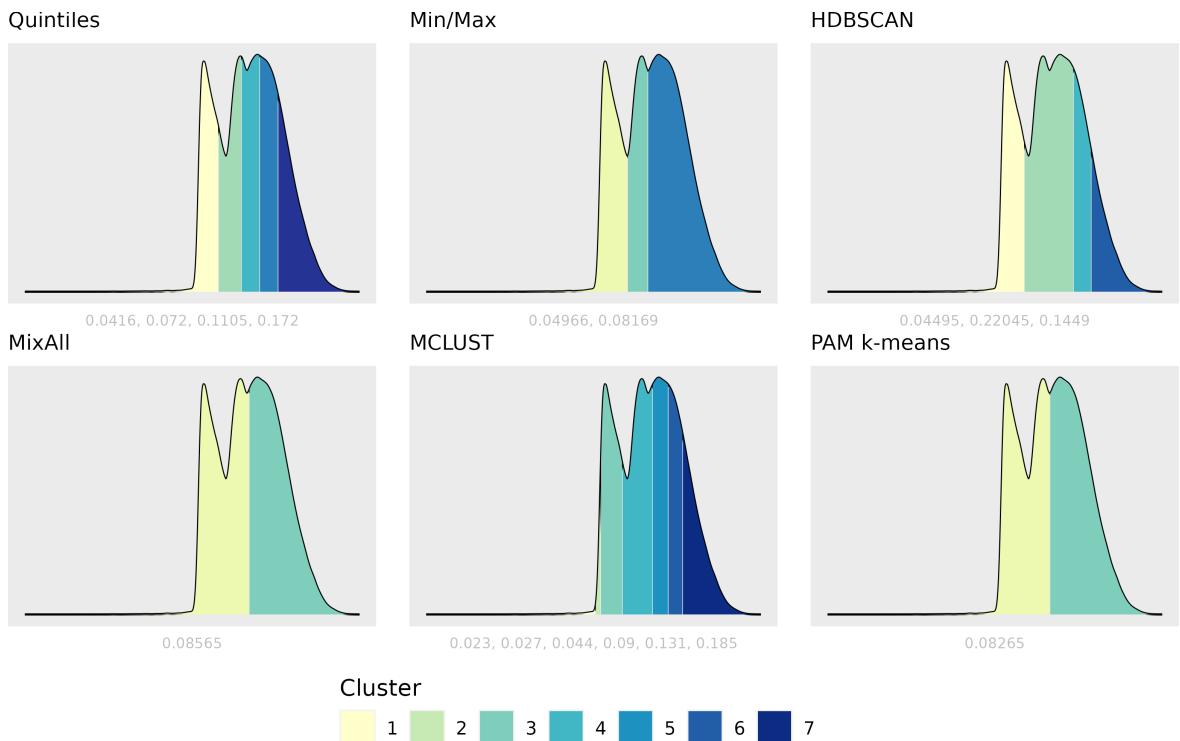


Figure 6: Cutoff values from each segmentation approach displayed on the log-transformed density distributions for the primary education amenity.

Table 6: The number of clusters suggested by all approaches for each amenity in the PMD.

	Emp.	Pharm.	Child.	Health.	Groc.	Pri. Educ.	Sec. Educ.	Lib.	Parks	Transit
Quintiles	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Min/Max	5	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	3	4
HDBSCAN	2	3	2	2	3	4	3	4	2	2
MixAll	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
MCLUST	9	7	3	4	3	7	8	7	8	3
PAM k-means	2	2	2	2	8	2	4	2	2	2

Table 7: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the primary education amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.47	0.00000	6013	0.71
MixAll	0.58	0.00033	15104	0.67
HDBSCAN	0.33	0.00009	2594	2.69
PAM k-means	0.59	0.00038	15239	0.66
MCLUST	0.46	0.00043	18424	0.65
Min/Max	0.45	0.00015	2853	0.64

5.5.2 Cluster Profiles

Table 8 shows the profiles of each of the clusters defined by each of the successful univariate clustering algorithms for the primary education amenity. The cluster numbers were sorted by cutoff values so that the clusters with the least amenity proximity are #1, and those with the most proximity are larger numbers. The other summary variables seem to be roughly correlated with proximity to primary education: as this proximity increases, DB population seems to increase, median IoR seems to decrease, percentage of CMA DBs increases, percentage of DBs in Ontario increases, and the percentage of low amenity dense DBs decreases. All of these trends seem to indicate that proximity to primary education is highest in densely populated cities. Figure 7 summarizes these same clusters by showing the number of DBs and number of people in each cluster for each algorithm.

Table 8: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the primary education amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Pri. Educ.	Range
Entire Population	225,359 (100.0%)	61	0.12	CMA (65.6%)	Ontario (24.3%)	Low (81.3%)	0.090	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	44,802 (19.9%)	47	0.15	CMA (53.4%)	Ontario (17.4%)	Low (93.1%)	0.032	0 - 0.0416
Min/Max C1	57,009 (25.3%)	47	0.15	CMA (52.6%)	Ontario (17.1%)	Low (92.9%)	0.034	0 - 0.0497
HDBSCAN C1	50,263 (22.3%)	47	0.15	CMA (53.0%)	Ontario (17.2%)	Low (93.0%)	0.033	0 - 0.0449
MixAll C1	107,488 (47.7%)	50	0.14	CMA (56.1%)	Ontario (19.1%)	Low (90.7%)	0.047	0 - 0.0857
MCLUST C1	518 (0.2%)	127	0.30	None (72.6%)	NovaScotia (10.0%)	Low (100.0%)	0.018	0 - 0.0235
PAM k-means C1	104,320 (46.3%)	50	0.14	CMA (55.8%)	Ontario (19.0%)	Low (90.8%)	0.046	0 - 0.0827
Quintiles C2	44,830 (19.9%)	51	0.14	CMA (56.1%)	Ontario (19.3%)	Low (89.8%)	0.058	0.0416 - 0.0720
Min/Max C2	45,865 (20.4%)	53	0.14	CMA (59.7%)	Ontario (21.2%)	Low (88.4%)	0.066	0.0497 - 0.0817
HDBSCAN C2	113,383 (50.3%)	59	0.12	CMA (64.3%)	Ontario (24.3%)	Low (84.9%)	0.085	0.0449 - 0.1449
MixAll C2	117,871 (52.3%)	69	0.11	CMA (74.3%)	Ontario (29.0%)	Low (72.8%)	0.149	0.0857 - 1
MCLUST C2	1,794 (0.8%)	48	0.15	CMA (53.2%)	Ontario (16.6%)	Low (93.9%)	0.026	0.0235 - 0.0265
PAM k-means C2	121,039 (53.7%)	69	0.11	CMA (74.1%)	Ontario (28.9%)	Low (73.1%)	0.147	0.0827 - 1
Quintiles C3	45,503 (20.2%)	60	0.12	CMA (65.4%)	Ontario (24.9%)	Low (84.6%)	0.090	0.0720 - 0.1105
Min/Max C3	122,485 (54.4%)	69	0.11	CMA (73.9%)	Ontario (28.8%)	Low (73.3%)	0.146	0.0817 - 1
HDBSCAN C3	35,780 (15.9%)	70	0.11	CMA (76.4%)	Ontario (29.9%)	Low (71.8%)	0.174	0.1449 - 0.2204
MCLUST C3	47,196 (20.9%)	46	0.15	CMA (53.4%)	Ontario (17.4%)	Low (92.9%)	0.033	0.0265 - 0.0444
Quintiles C4	45,120 (20.0%)	67	0.11	CMA (73.7%)	Ontario (29.9%)	Low (77.3%)	0.137	0.1105 - 0.1720
HDBSCAN C4	25,933 (11.5%)	82	0.09	CMA (80.7%)	Ontario (30.0%)	Low (55.9%)	0.285	0.2204 - 1
MCLUST C4	63,570 (28.2%)	54	0.14	CMA (59.1%)	Ontario (20.9%)	Low (88.3%)	0.067	0.0444 - 0.0901
Quintiles C5	45,104 (20.0%)	77	0.10	CMA (79.3%)	Ontario (29.9%)	Low (61.9%)	0.233	0.1720 - 1
MCLUST C5	40,185 (17.8%)	64	0.11	CMA (70.0%)	Ontario (28.0%)	Low (81.5%)	0.109	0.0901 - 0.1312
MCLUST C6	33,300 (14.8%)	69	0.11	CMA (75.0%)	Ontario (29.8%)	Low (75.0%)	0.154	0.1312 - 0.1850
MCLUST C7	38,796 (17.2%)	78	0.10	CMA (79.9%)	Ontario (30.0%)	Low (60.1%)	0.247	0.1850 - 1

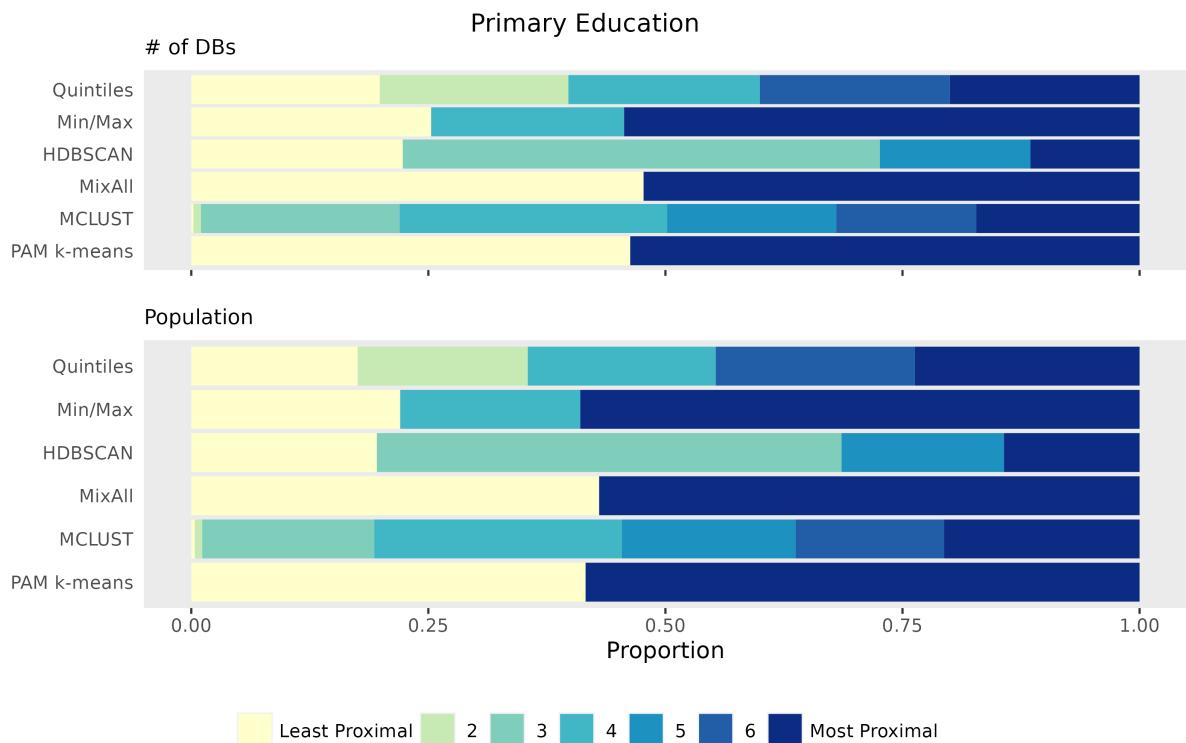


Figure 7: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the primary education amenity.

6 Analysis

6.1 Comparison of Approaches

6.2 Interpretation of Cluster Profiles

7 Discussion

THIS WILL BE DONE IN THE NEXT VERSION

8 Limitations

It is worth noting that since the PMD was only recently released as “experimental statistics”, it is possible that better, more comprehensive ways of calculating the proximity index using additional/different data sources may be developed in the future, which may render our methodology obsolete.

9 Future Work

There are many other potential avenues for future research in the clustering of the PMD. These include:

- Forcing the # of clusters to be the same between all algorithms.
- Trying different combinations of variables in multidimensional clustering.
- Trying additional clustering algorithms.
- Clustering on different data transformations.
- Sub-clustering - finding some way of dealing with outliers aside from selective models?
- Soft assignments - having ranges for cutoffs instead of hard cutoffs.

10 Conclusion

In conclusion, this project aimed to explore segmentation of continuous proximity measures in the Proximity Measure Database (PMD) developed by Statistics Canada. The goal was to create intuitive and understandable categorical measures for amenities, which could inform decision-making processes for policymakers and urban planners. By categorizing the proximity measures, it becomes easier to prioritize efforts in enhancing access and promoting social and economic sustainability within communities.

The project employed various clustering methods, including HDBSCAN, MixAll, MCLUST, and PAM K-means algorithms, to determine optimal cutoff values and cluster boundaries for each amenity. Additionally, clustering validation metrics such as the silhouette coefficient, Dunn index, Calinski-Harabasz, and Davies-Bouldin were used to evaluate the performance of each clustering technique and determine the appropriate number of clusters.

The results showed that the clustering techniques produced diverse outcomes, and there was no single algorithm that consistently outperformed others. Therefore, multiple techniques were utilized to ensure robustness and comprehensive exploration of the data.

Furthermore, cluster profiling was conducted to analyze the characteristics of each cluster, including the number of dissemination blocks, DB population, IoR, and provincial breakdown. This analysis provided insights into the heterogeneity between clusters and the homogeneity within each cluster.

Overall, this project demonstrated the potential of clustering methods in segmenting continuous proximity measures and generating meaningful categorical measures. The results can inform policymakers and urban planners in making informed decisions about the location of amenities and services, thereby enhancing access, social inclusion, and economic development within communities. Further research and analysis can build upon these findings to refine the clustering techniques and explore additional factors that contribute to the characteristics of clusters in the PMD.

11 References

- X Alasia, A., Bédard, F., Bélanger, J., Guimond, E., & Penney, C. (2017). *Measuring remoteness and accessibility: A set of indices for Canadian communities*. Reports on Special Business Projects, Statistics Canada. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/18-001-x/18-001-x2017002-eng.htm>.
- X Alasia, A., Newstead, N., Kuchar, J., & Radulescu, M. (2021, February 15). *Measuring Proximity to Services and Amenities: An Experimental Set of Indicators for Neighbourhoods and Localities*. Reports on Special Business Projects, Statistics Canada. Retrieved May 4, 2023, from <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/18-001-x/18-001-x2020001-eng.htm>
- X Bezdek, J.C., Ehrlich, R., & Full, W. *FCM: The fuzzy c-means clustering algorithm*, Computers & Geosciences, Volume 10, Issues 2–3, 1984, Pages 191-203, ISSN 0098-3004, [https://doi.org/10.1016/0098-3004\(84\)90020-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/0098-3004(84)90020-7).
- X MacQueen, J. B. (1967). *Some Methods for classification and Analysis of Multivariate Observations*. Proceedings of 5th Berkeley Symposium on Mathematical Statistics and Probability. Vol. 1. University of California Press. pp. 281–297.
- X Mehta, V., Bawa, S. & Singh, J. *Analytical review of clustering techniques and proximity measures*. Artif Intell Rev 53, 5995–6023 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10462-020-09840-7>
- X OECD, Statistics Canada. (2018). *Workshop on Modernising Statistical Systems for Better Data on Regions and Cities*. Retrieved May 4, 2023, from <https://www.oecd.org/cfe/regionaldevelopment/modernising-statistical-systems.htm>
- X Rigolon, A., & Németh, J. (2021). *What shapes uneven access to urban amenities? Thick injustice and the legacy of racial discrimination in Denver's parks*. Journal of Planning Education and Research, 41(3), 312-325.
- X Statistics Canada. (2021). *Dictionary, Census of Population, 2021 Dissemination block (DB)*. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/ref/dict/az/definition-eng.cfm>
- X Statistics Canada. (2021). *Index of Remoteness 2021: Update with 2021 census geographies and populations*. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/17-26-0001/2020001/meta-doc-eng.htm>

A Appendix

A.1 Analysis of Amenities

A.1.1 Employment

A.1.2 Pharmacy

A.1.3 Child care

A.1.4 Health care

A.1.5 Grocery

A.1.6 Secondary Education

A.1.7 Library

A.1.8 Parks

A.1.9 Transit

A.2 Successful Methods

A.2.1 K-means (Partitioning Around Medoids - PAM)

K-means is a clustering algorithm that aims to partition a dataset into K clusters, where each data point belongs to the group with the closest mean. The Partitioning Around Medoids (PAM) variation replaces the concept of ‘mean’ with ‘medoids’ to handle noise and outliers more effectively (Kaufman and Rousseeuw 1990).

The PAM algorithm, an evolution of the K-means clustering method, operates by selecting K representative objects, or medoids, among the observations of the dataset. These medoids are the most centrally located data points in a cluster, which means the average dissimilarity between a medoid and all other objects within the same cluster is minimized. In contrast to the K-means algorithm, which uses means as cluster centers, PAM’s utilization of medoids makes it a robust alternative, less sensitive to noise and outliers.

The PAM algorithm works in two phases: the ‘build phase’ and the ‘swap phase’. During the build phase, K objects are selected to be the medoids, the dissimilarity matrix is calculated, and every object is assigned to its closest medoid. The swap phase attempts to improve the clustering quality by exchanging selected objects (medoids) and non-selected objects. If the sum of the dissimilarities of all objects to their nearest medoid (the objective function) can be reduced by this swapping, then the swap is carried out. The process continues until the objective function can no longer be decreased, resulting in a set of K representative objects which minimize the sum of the dissimilarities of the observations to their nearest representative object (Kaufman and Rousseeuw 1990).

The presence of numerous outliers for each amenity within the dataset made k-means PAM an enticing algorithm to try for this project. The robust nature of PAM towards outliers, thanks to its use of medoids as opposed to means makes it less sensitive to noise and therefore more capable of handling this sort of dataset.

A.2.2 Gaussian Mixture Models (MCLUST)

MCLUST is an R package that provides a comprehensive approach to finite mixture models, providing functions for model-based clustering, classification, and density estimation based on Gaussian Mixture Models (GMMs). GMMs are probabilistic models assuming that the data points in a given dataset are generated from a mixture of Gaussian distributions, with each Gaussian component representing a distinct cluster (Scrucca et al., 2016).

Mclust uses the Expectation-Maximization (EM) algorithm for estimating the parameters. The EM algorithm operates iteratively in two steps:

1. Expectation (E) Step: Expected values of the component memberships are calculated based on the current parameters.
2. Maximization (M) Step: The log-likelihood function is maximized to update the parameter estimates based on these expected values.

The process is repeated until convergence, providing the parameter estimates for the mixture model. Furthermore, Mclust automatically computes and selects the best model as per the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC), considering different numbers of clusters and different parameterizations of the covariance matrix (Scrucca et al., 2016).

The results from the Gaussian Mixture Models (MCLUST) might have been influenced by certain assumptions inherent in this method. Firstly, MCLUST assumes that the data is generated from a mixture of Gaussian distributions, an assumption that might not fully hold for our dataset. While we log-transformed our data to better approximate Gaussian distributions, any deviations from this assumption could lead to less accurate clustering (Scrucca et al., 2016).

Additionally, MCLUST assumes that the different components of the Gaussian mixture model are represented by different clusters in the data. If this assumption does not hold, the resulting clusters may not be meaningful or interpretable. Another key assumption is that the variables within each component are normally distributed and independent, an assumption that may not hold in our univariate dataset. Furthermore, MCLUST uses maximum likelihood estimation, which can be sensitive to initial values and local maxima. Therefore, these assumptions and characteristics could potentially impact the accuracy and usefulness of the results from the MCLUST model (Scrucca et al., 2016).

A.2.3 MixAll

MixAll is a clustering model that functions on the premise of mixture models. These models assume that data is generated from a combination of probability distributions, which is ideal for handling datasets with diverse distributions or missing values.

The MixAll model is basically a mixture model. Mixture models assume data is generated from a combination of probability distributions. Parameter estimation is achieved by maximizing the observed log-likelihood or integrated log-likelihood for data with missing values. Estimation algorithms like expectation-maximization (EM), SEM, and CEM are used and the default is EM which is highlighted below, involving steps such as imputation, conditional probability calculation, and parameter updates. The EM algorithm iteratively performs these steps until convergence (Iovleff, 2019) .

Steps of the EM Algorithm:

1. I step: Impute the missing values x_i^m using the current MAP value provided by the current parameter θ^{m-1} .
2. E step: Compute the current conditional probabilities t_{ik}^m for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $k = 1, \dots, K$ using the current parameter θ^{m-1} .
3. M step: Update the maximum likelihood estimate θ^m of θ using the conditional probabilities t_{ik}^m as conditional mixing weights, aiming to maximize the log-likelihood function, where $t^m = (t_{ik}^m, i = 1, \dots, n, k = 1, \dots, K)$.
4. Parameter update: The updated expression of mixture proportions p_k^m for $k = 1, \dots, K$ are computed. Detailed formulas for updating the parameters λ_k and α depend on the component parameterization (Iovleff, 2019).

The MixAll algorithm's assumptions might have influenced our results. Specifically, the `clusterDiagGaussian()` function assumes variable independence, expecting multivariate data for clustering, while our data is univariate, possibly leading to less meaningful clusters.

The model also presupposes data generated from a Gaussian mixture. Although we approximated Gaussian distributions by log transforming our data, minor deviations could still affect the model's performance. Another consideration is that the algorithm handles varied standard deviations within each component. If our univariate data doesn't meet this assumption, it might distort the clusters (Iovleff, 2019).

This algorithm was chosen due to its capabilities of imputing missing values, a feature required when dealing with our data which contained many NAs. MixAll's efficient handling of datasets with diverse distributions made it a suitable choice, especially after transforming our data, which originally had a right-skewed distribution into a more normal-looking distribution via log transformation.

A.2.4 Multivariate - ClustImpute

ClustImpute algorithm on multi-dimensional, log-scaled proximity measures. Other variables used for this clustering along with the one amenity at a time include:

- “CSD_AREA”
- “PMS_CSDPOP”
- “PMS_DBPOP”
- “IOR_Index_of_remoteness”

These variables were scaled from 0-1 prior to clustering. This algorithm “draws the missing values iteratively based on the current cluster assignment so that correlations are considered on this level”. Also, “penalizing weights are imposed on imputed values and successively decreased (to zero) as the missing data imputation gets better”. The idea is that the missing value is imputed by those other observations that are more similar to it (ie. in the same cluster).

Algorithm Steps:

1. It replaces all NAs by random imputation, i.e., for each variable with missings, it draws from the marginal distribution of this variable not taking into account any correlations with other variables
2. Weights < 1 are used to adjust the scale of an observation that was generated in step 1. The weights are calculated by a (linear) weight function that starts near zero and converges to 1 at n_end.
3. A k-means clustering is performed with a number of c_steps steps starting with a random initialization.
4. The values from step 2 are replaced by new draws conditionally on the assigned cluster from step 3.
5. Steps 2-4 are repeated nr_iter times in total. The k-means clustering in step 3 uses the previous cluster centroids for initialization.
6. After the last draws a final k-means clustering is performed.

A.2.5 Multivariate - VarSelLCM

The varselLCM (Variable Selection in Latent Class Models) clustering algorithm is a method that combines latent class modeling with variable selection techniques to identify meaningful clusters in data (Marbac & Sedki, 2017). This method has been applied on all the amenity proximity measures together.

Due to the significant presence of NA values in the dataset, it is necessary to utilize an algorithm that can cluster the data without the need for imputing these NA values. Imputing the NA values in this case could have a substantial impact on the resulting clusters.

Moreover, it is not feasible to simply remove the NA values from all columns in the dataset. This approach would lead to a significant reduction in the amount of available data. Additionally, the presence of missing values in one column can affect the available values in other columns, making it impractical to remove NA values indiscriminately from the dataset.

1. Data Preparation: The algorithm takes as input a dataset consisting of categorical variables. It is assumed that the data is generated from an underlying latent class structure, where each observation belongs to a specific latent class.
2. Model Initialization: The algorithm begins by randomly assigning observations to different latent classes. It initializes the model parameters, including the class probabilities and the conditional probabilities of each variable within each class.
3. Expectation-Maximization (EM) Algorithm: The varselLCM algorithm employs an iterative process based on the EM algorithm. In the expectation step (E-step), the algorithm calculates the probability of each observation belonging to each class based on the current model parameters.
4. Variable Selection: In the maximization step (M-step), the algorithm selects a subset of relevant variables that contribute to the clustering process. It employs a variable selection criterion, such as the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC), to identify the most informative variables for clustering.
5. Model Update: Once the relevant variables are selected, the algorithm updates the model parameters based on the observed data and the selected variables. It estimates the class probabilities and the conditional probabilities of the selected variables within each class.
6. Iterative Process: Steps 3-5 are repeated iteratively until convergence is achieved. The algorithm continues updating the model parameters and selecting variables until the clustering solution stabilizes.
7. Final Clustering Solution: Once convergence is reached, the algorithm assigns each observation to the latent class with the highest probability. The resulting clustering solution represents a partitioning of the data into distinct clusters based on the selected variables and their associated probabilities within each class (Marbac & Sedki, 2017).

Initially, VarselLCM was utilized for multivariate clustering. However, upon observing distinct cluster patterns in the data through log transformation, the focus shifted towards univariate clustering. Unfortunately, attempts to apply VarselLCM for univariate clustering were unsuccessful as it did not converge. Consequently, it was not possible to proceed with the technique.

A.3 Unsuccessful Methods

A.3.1 OPTICS

OPTICS stands for Ordering Points To Identify Clustering Structure. This algorithm can be seen as a generalization of DBSCAN. A major issue with DBSCAN is that it fails to find

clusters of varying density due to fixed eps. This is solved in OPTICS by using an approach of finding reachability of each point from the core points and then deciding the clusters based on reachability plot (Hashmi, 2021).

Considering the log-transformed data, we observed multiple peaks and troughs, suggesting that the clusters may have varying densities. Therefore, aim to explore the applicability of OPTICS, a clustering technique adept at accommodating varying densities (Hahsler et al., 2019). Also there were a decent amount of outliers in the proximity measures which OPTICS can handle (2.3. Clustering, n.d.).

Relevant terminologies for OPTICS:

- ϵ , epsilon (eps): is the Maximum distance between two points that can be considered to form a group/cluster.
- MinPts: is the minimum number of points that must be present near each other within the epsilon (ϵ) range in order for them to all form a group or cluster.
- Core Point: A point in the data that has at least MinPts number of points nearby within the eps (ϵ) range.
- Border Point/Non-Core Point: A border point or non-core point is a data point in which there are fewer than the minimum number of points (MinPts) within reach of it (at a distance of eps).
- Noise: A noise point is a data point in which there isn't a single point within eps of it.
- Core Distance: Core distance can be less than the predetermined value of, epsilon (ϵ), which is the maximum allowed distance to find MinPts. Core distance denotes the minimum distance needed for a point to become a core point and denotes that the MinPts number of points can be found within this distance.
- Reachability distance: Reachability Distance is the minimum distance from the cluster's extreme point if the point is outside the core distance, and the core distance is the distance necessary to reach the point from the cluster if it is inside the core distance (Hashmi, 2021).

Algorithm Steps:

1. For the given values of MinPts and eps(ϵ). Find out if a point is close to MinPts number of points within a distance less than or equal to eps. Tag it as a Core Point. Update the reachability distance = core distance for all the points within the cluster.
2. If it is not a core point then find out its density connected distance from the nearest cluster. Update the reachability distance.
3. Arrange the data in increasing order of reachability distance for each cluster. The smallest distances come first and represent the dense sections of data and the largest distances come next representing the noise section. This is a special type of dendrogram.
4. Find out the places where a sharp decline is happening in the reachability distance plot.
5. “Cut” the plot in the y-axis by a suitable distance to get the clusters (Hashmi, 2021).

The clustering process was applied solely to the employment variable without considering any supplementary explanatory variables. By examining the cutoffs in Table X, it becomes apparent that the clusters overlap and intersect with other clusters. This overlapping and intersecting nature is not suitable for creating distinct profiles. For this reason, the decision was made not to continue with this technique.

A.3.2 Jenks Natural Break Classification

The Jenks Natural Breaks Classification (or Optimization) system is a data classification method designed to optimize the arrangement of a set of values into “natural” classes. A Natural class is the most optimal class range found “naturally” in a data set. Natural breaks are determined with a frequency histogram. Class boundaries are identified as troughs in the data. Many dataset will not have obvious natural breaks which means that this method would tend to show breaks where none really exists (Jenks Natural Breaks Classification - GIS Wiki - the GIS Encyclopedia, 2018.)

By attempting to minimize the average deviation of each class from the class mean while maximizing the average deviation of each class from the means of the other classes, the Jenks Natural Breaks Classification method attempts to reduce the variance within classes while enhancing the variance between classes (Wikipedia contributors, 2023).

Jenks Natural Breaks is chosen for application due to the limitation of proximity measures in representing data distribution, specifically when the distribution is not normal. Jenks Natural Breaks, being a non-parametric method, does not assume any specific data distribution and can be applied to a wide range of data types and distributions. This makes it a suitable choice in cases where the proximity measures’ distribution deviates from normality. By considering the inherent characteristics of the data, Jenks Natural Breaks can identify natural groupings based on the actual data distribution, enhancing the clustering results. (Geospatial Analysis 6th Edition, 2021 Update - De Smith, Goodchild, Longley and Colleagues, 2021)

Algorithm Steps:

1. The user selects the attribute, x , to be classified and specifies the number of classes required, k .
2. A set of $k-1$ random or uniform values are generated in the range $[\min\{x\}, \max\{x\}]$. These are used as initial class boundaries.
3. The mean values for each initial class are computed and the sum of squared deviations of class members from the mean values is computed. The total sum of squared deviations (TSSD) is recorded
4. Individual values in each class are then systematically assigned to adjacent classes by adjusting the class boundaries to see if the TSSD can be reduced. This is an iterative process, which ends when improvement in TSSD falls below a threshold level, i.e. when the within class variance is as small as possible and between class variance is as large as possible. True optimization is not assured. The entire process can be optionally repeated from Step 1 or 2 and TSSD values compared (Geospatial Analysis 6th Edition, 2021 Update - De Smith, Goodchild, Longley and Colleagues, 2021).

The results of the Jenks Natural Break classification are not useful for several reasons. Firstly, when considering employment and childcare, there were variations identified. However, for other amenities, the algorithm consistently suggested 2 or 3 clusters. The problem arises when we observe that the natural breaks for these clusters are within a very narrow range. For example, the first cluster has a range from 0 to 0.0095, and the second cluster has a range from 0.0095 to 0.7452. The remaining data points above this range are grouped into the third cluster. When plotting these clusters on a kernel density plot, we observe that only one cluster is visible. This is because the ranges for the other two clusters are so small that they cannot be effectively visualized. This lack of visibility hinders the usefulness of the classification results. Moreover, these findings are not helpful for profiling purposes as they ignore the variations in the larger range. Focusing solely on the narrow ranges of the clusters neglects the valuable information and differences present in the broader range of data points.

A.4 Extra Plots and Tables

Table 9: Data Dictionary for the PMD.

Amenity	Definition
<i>Employment</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a source of employment within a driving distance of 10 km. This measure is derived from the employment counts of all businesses – that is, all North American Industry Classification (NAICS) codes in the Business Register.
<i>Grocery</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a grocery store within a walking distance of 1 km. This measure is derived from the total revenue of all NAICS 4451 businesses in the Business Register.
<i>Pharmacy</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a pharmacy or a drug store within a walking distance of 1 km. This measure is derived from the presence of all NAICS 446110 businesses in the Business Register.
<i>Health care</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a health care facility within a driving distance of 3 km. This measure is derived from the employment counts of all NAICS 6211, 6212, 6213, 621494, and 622 businesses in the Business Register.
<i>Child care</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a child care facility within a walking distance of 1.5 km. This measure is derived from the presence of all NAICS 624410 businesses in the Business Register.
<i>Primary Education</i>	Measures the proximity to primary education measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a primary school within a walking distance of 1.5 km. Primary schools are classified as education facilities with an International Standard Classification of education (ISCED) level of 1. The data source is a conglomeration of the Open Database of Education Facilities and other sources of education facilities.
<i>Secondary Education</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a secondary school within a walking distance of 1.5 km. The data source is a conglomeration of the Open Database of Education Facilities and other sources of education facilities where secondary schools are classified as ISCED2 and/or ISCED3.
<i>Transit</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any source of public transportation within a 1 km walking distance. This measure is derived from the number of all trips between 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. from a conglomeration of General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS) data sources.
<i>Parks</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a neighborhood park within a 1 km walking distance. This measure is derived from the presence of all parks from a conglomeration of authoritative open data sources and OpenStreetMap.
<i>Libraries</i>	Measures the closeness of a dissemination block to any dissemination block with a library within a 1.5 km walking distance. This measure is derived from the presence of all libraries from a conglomeration of open and publicly available data sources.
<i>Amenity Dense</i>	An aggregate measure was created to indicate neighbourhoods that have access to basic needs for a family with minors. A dissemination block with access to a grocery store, pharmacy, health care facility, child care facility, primary school, library, public transit stop, and source of employment is referred to as an amenity dense neighbourhood. A high amenity density neighbourhood is defined as an amenity dense neighbourhood that has proximity measure values in the top third of the distribution for each of the eight proximity measures.

Table 10: Summary statistics of log-transformed numerical variables from the PMD.

	Employment	Pharmacy	Childcare	Healthcare	Grocery	Pri. Educ.	Sec. Educ.	Library	Parks	Transit
1 Dec.	-8.51719	-4.87961	-4.82831	-8.11173	-4.23361	-3.44202	-3.28341	-2.97789	-4.35831	-6.72543
2 Dec.	-7.6009	-4.61522	-4.1799	-7.1309	-3.80766	-3.17725	-3.16534	-2.88419	-3.89222	-5.9145
3 Dec.	-6.57128	-4.21991	-3.7214	-6.2659	-3.54046	-2.84215	-3.02413	-2.77259	-3.57913	-5.3817
4 Dec.	-5.77635	-3.94248	-3.35527	-5.71383	-3.35527	-2.6297	-2.83532	-2.6479	-3.28876	-4.99083
5 Dec.	-5.02069	-3.66126	-3.04282	-5.27851	-3.13499	-2.40684	-2.59561	-2.50715	-3.0324	-4.65646
6 Dec.	-4.35831	-3.37553	-2.75357	-4.89285	-2.88957	-2.20184	-2.3958	-2.34237	-2.78872	-4.32754
7 Dec.	-3.82585	-3.08347	-2.46864	-4.49184	-2.63109	-1.98997	-2.1698	-2.14644	-2.53326	-3.98998
8 Dec.	-3.29954	-2.74575	-2.14729	-3.98998	-2.31668	-1.75968	-1.9018	-1.90448	-2.25284	-3.60087
9 Dec.	-2.62141	-2.31871	-1.74183	-3.3697	-1.87015	-1.45629	-1.54693	-1.55732	-1.90046	-3.11677
Min.	-9.21034	-9.21034	-9.21034	-9.21034	-8.517193	-7.600902	-7.418581	-8.517193	-9.21034	-9.21034
Median	-5.02069	-3.66126	-3.04282	-5.27851	-3.13499	-2.40684	-2.59561	-2.50715	-3.0324	-4.65646
Mean	-5.30642	-3.60872	-3.14453	-5.50353	-3.08437	-2.41781	-2.51013	-2.36977	-3.06704	-4.80398
Max.	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04	1e-04
Std. Dev.	2.1556	0.9607	1.1298	1.7612	0.9114	0.7301	0.668	0.5789	0.9174	1.4123
Skew	-0.237	0.363	-0.208	-0.344	0.132	0.112	0.605	1.024	-0.154	-0.55
Kurtosis	2	2.54	2.43	2.53	2.85	2.32	2.63	4.14	3.04	3.21

Boxplots of proximity indices

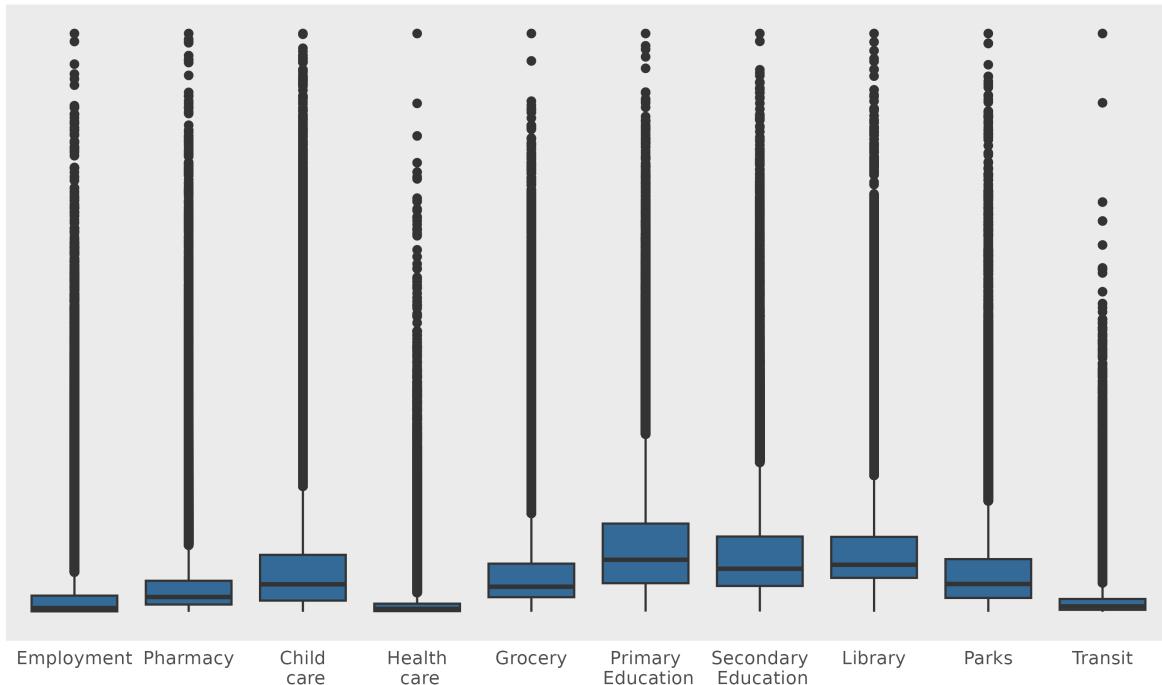


Figure 8: Boxplots showing outliers for all ten amenities of the PMD.

Boxplots of log-transformed proximity indices

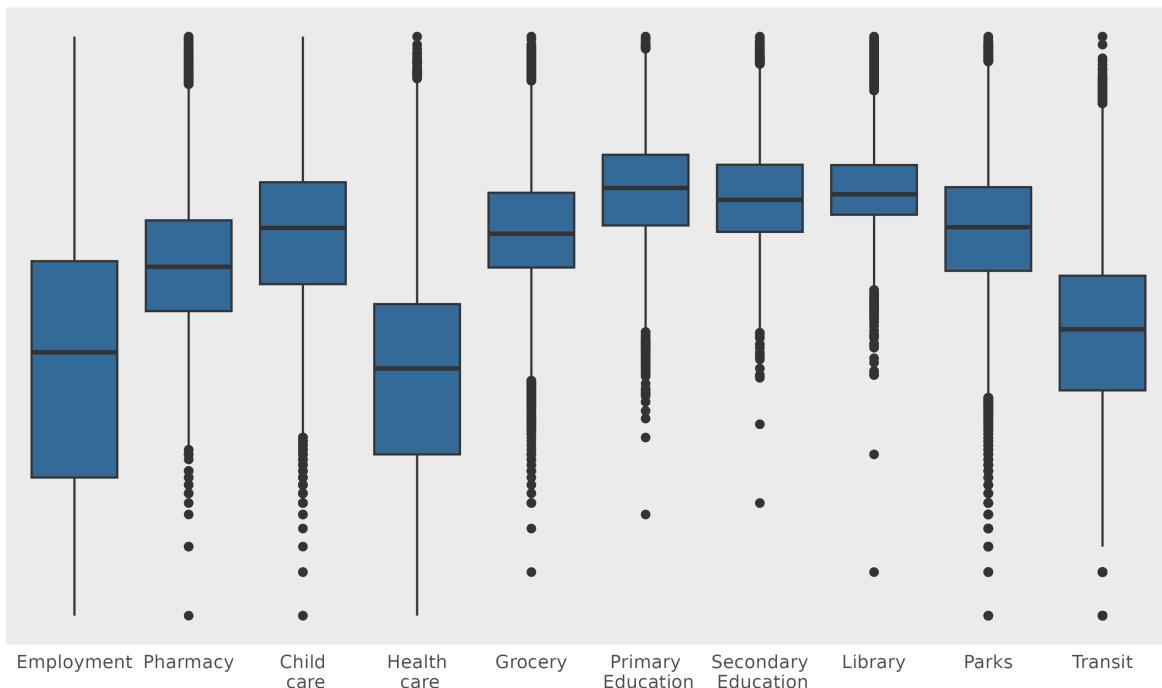


Figure 9: Boxplots showing outliers for all ten log-transformed amenities of the PMD.

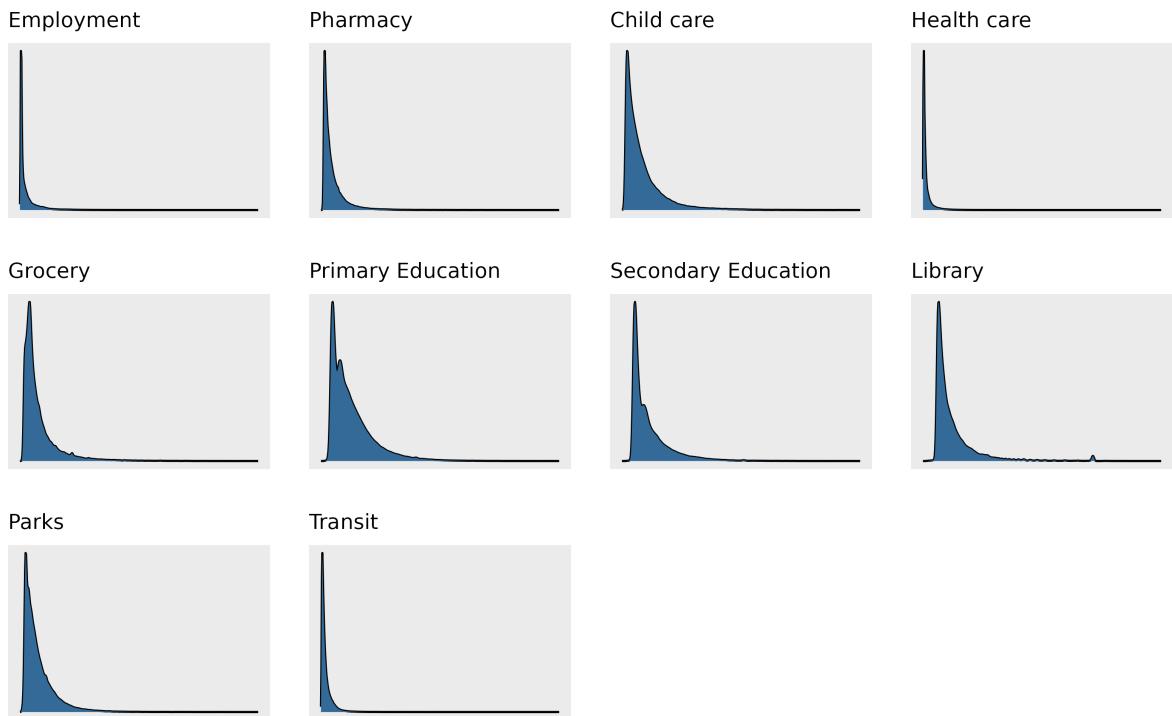


Figure 10: Density distributions for all ten amenities of the PMD.

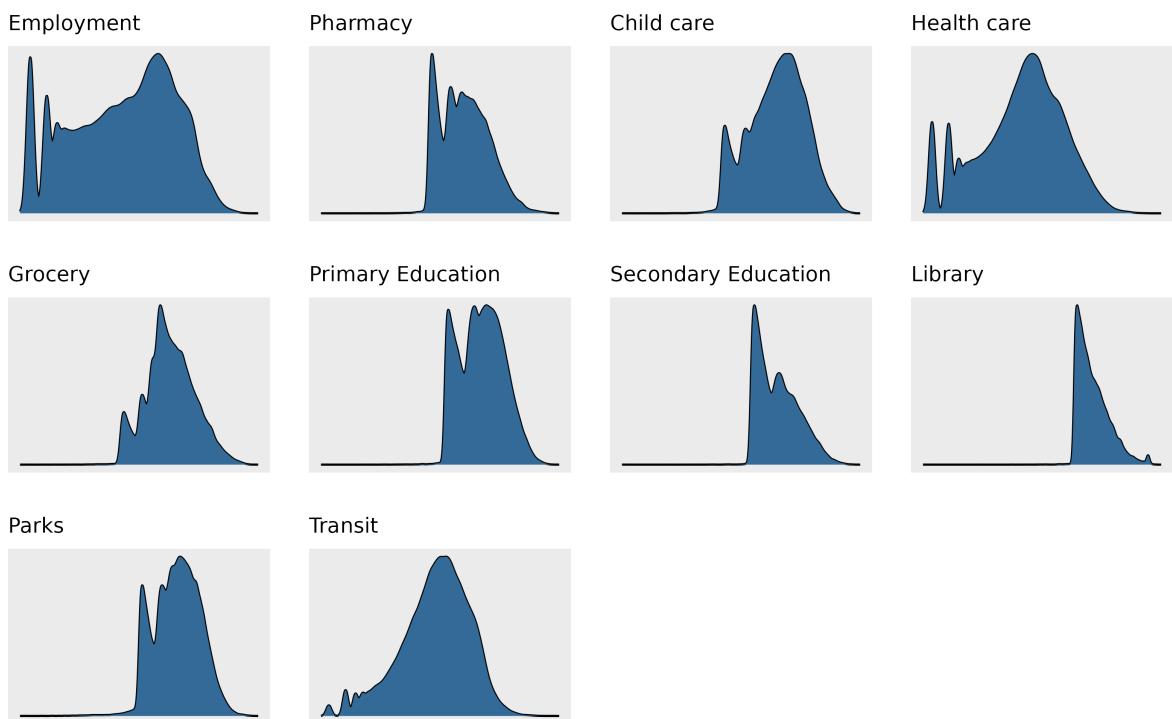


Figure 11: Log-transformed density distributions for all ten amenities of the PMD.

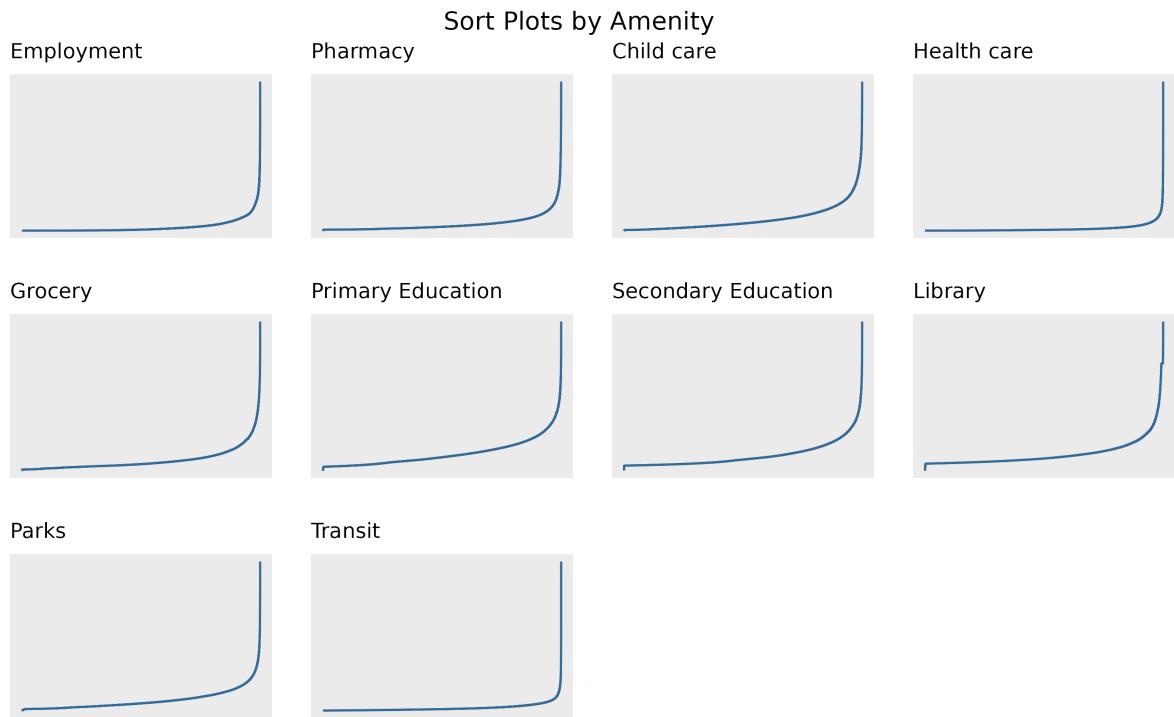


Figure 12: Sort plots for each amenity in the PMD.

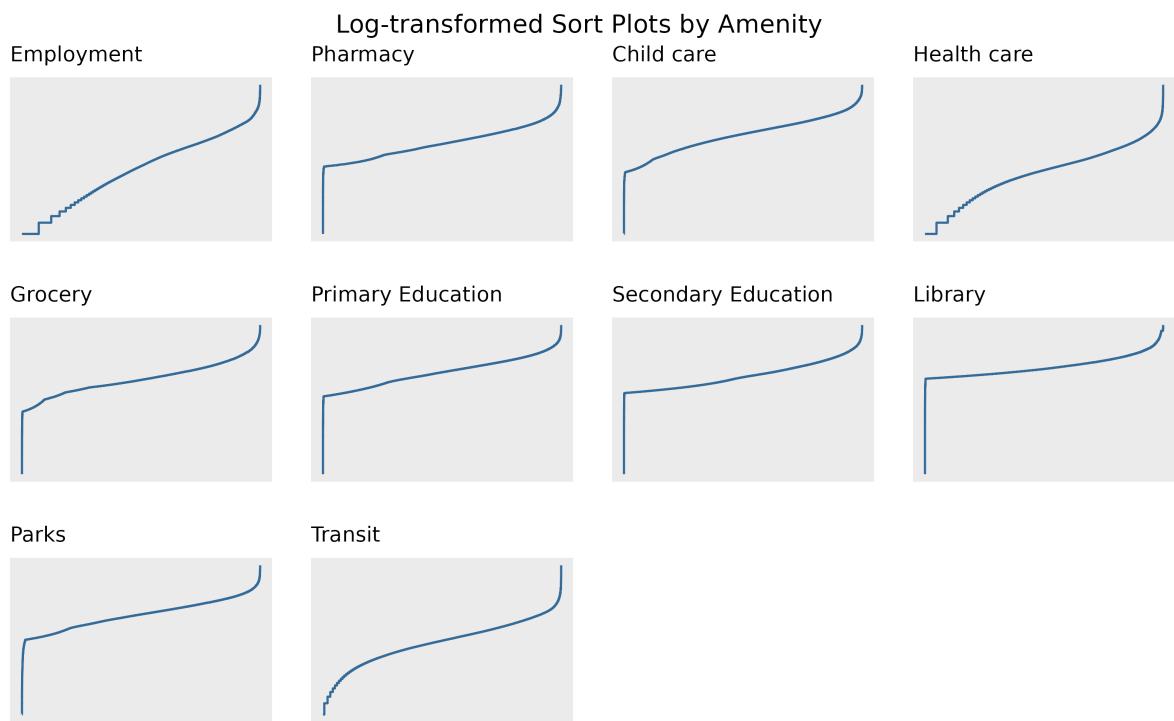


Figure 13: Log-transformed sort plots for each amenity in the PMD.

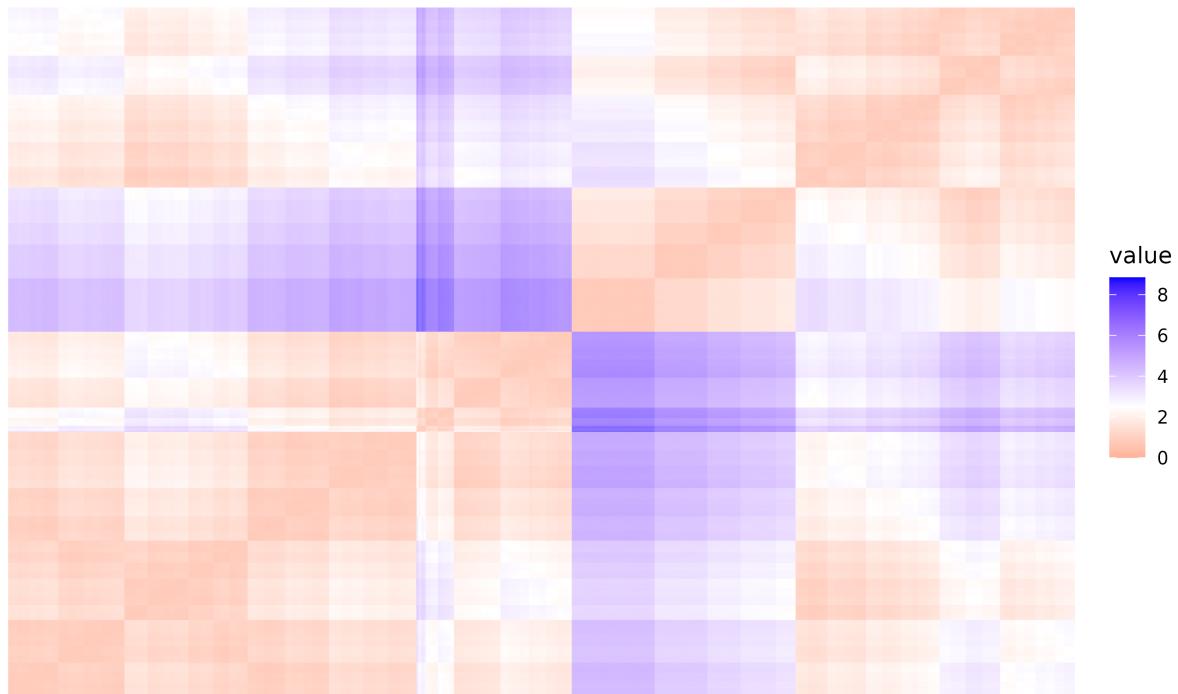
Employment

Figure 14: VAT plot for the log-transformed employment amenity.

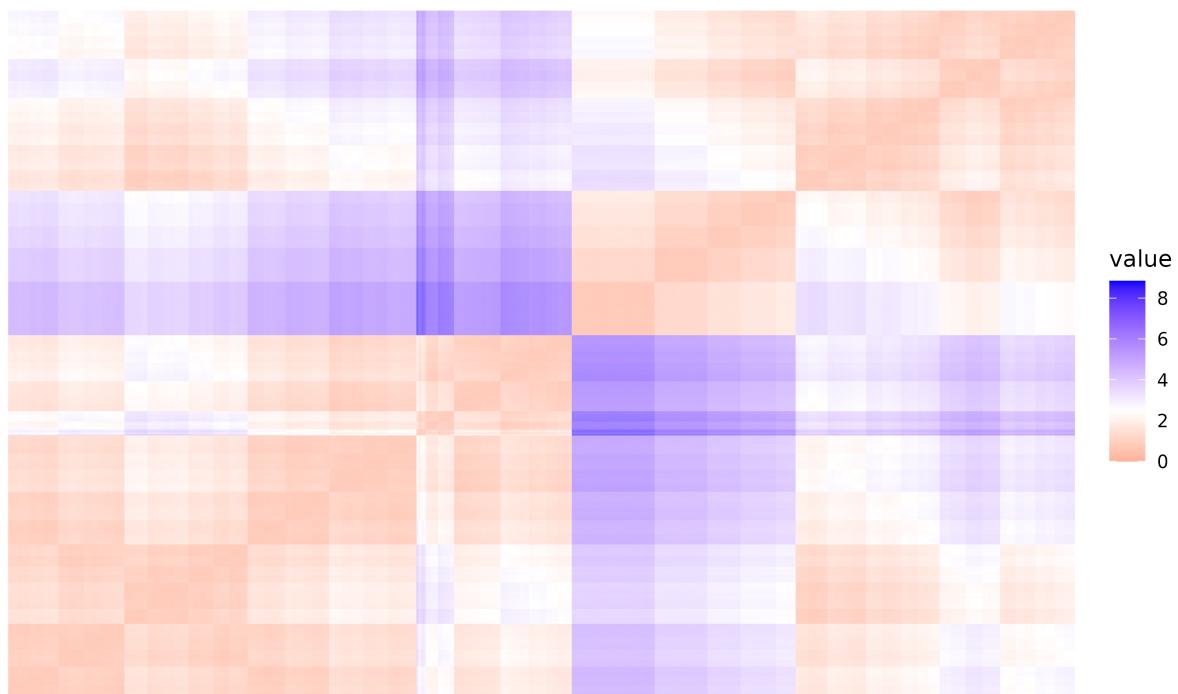
Pharmacy

Figure 15: VAT plot for the log-transformed pharmacy amenity.

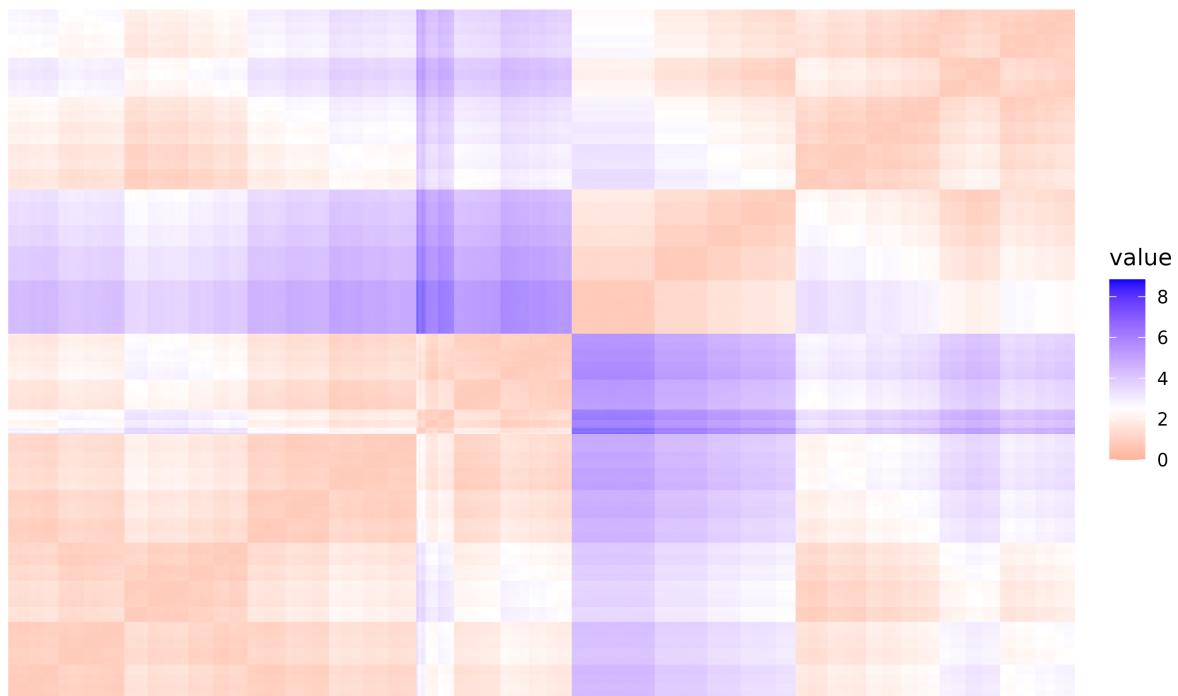
Child care

Figure 16: VAT plot for the log-transformed child care amenity.

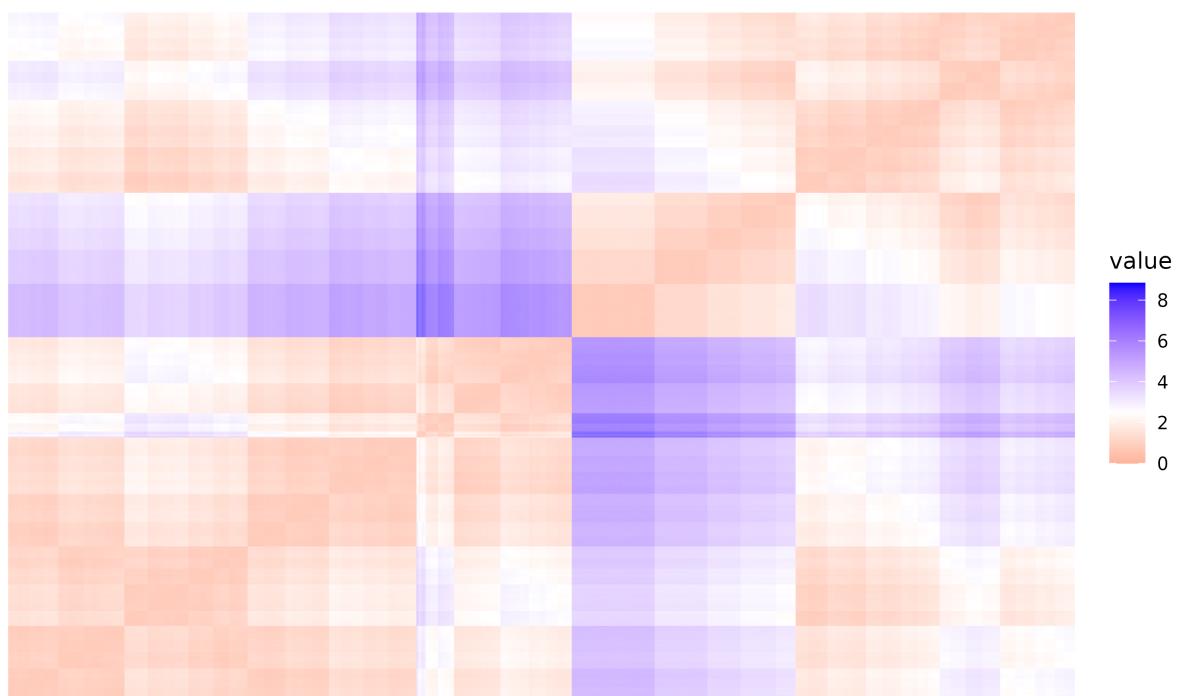
Health care

Figure 17: VAT plot for the log-transformed health care amenity.

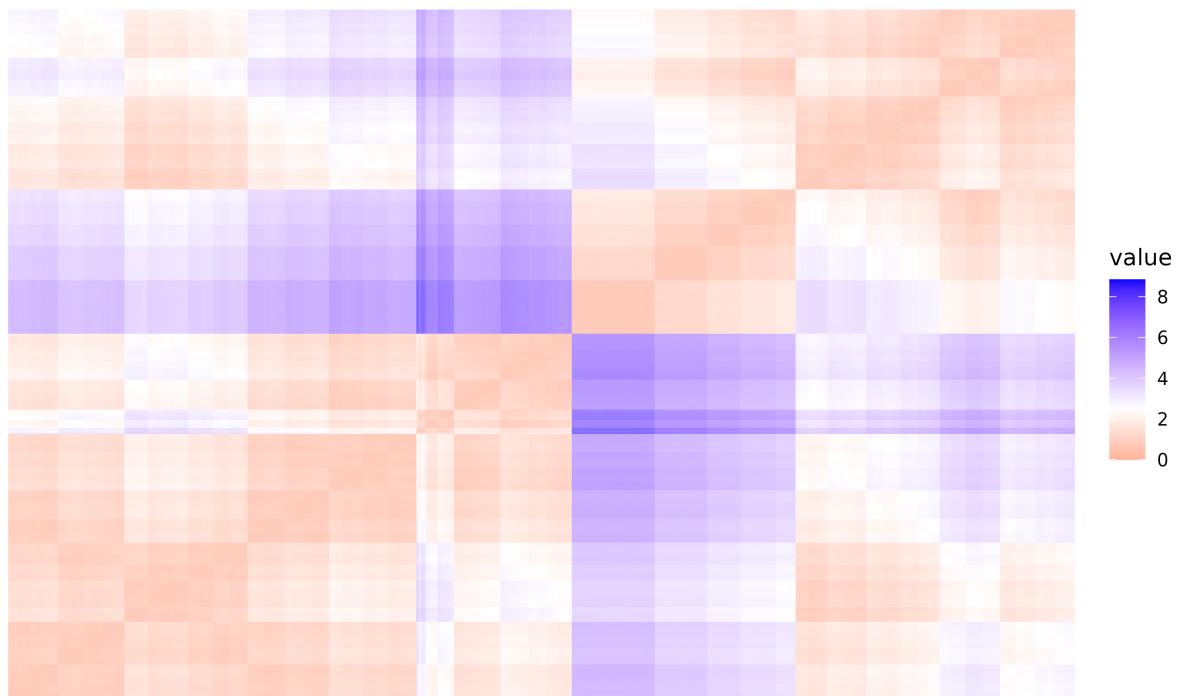
Grocery

Figure 18: VAT plot for the log-transformed grocery amenity.

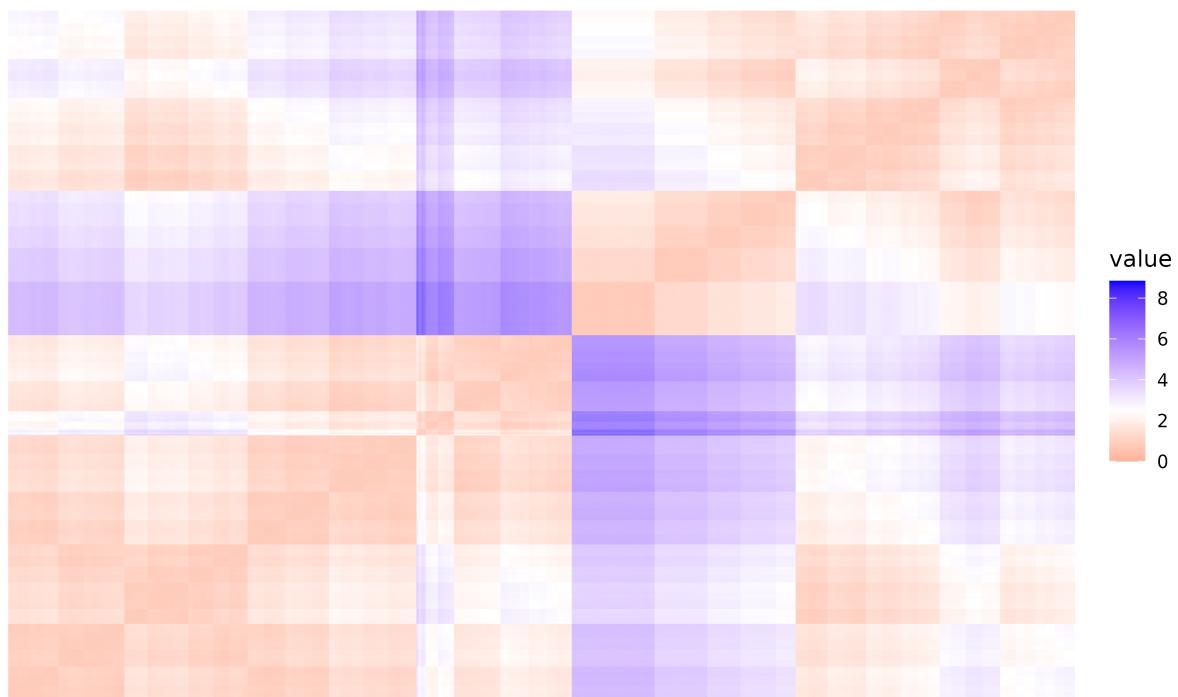
Secondary Education

Figure 19: VAT plot for the log-transformed secondary education amenity.

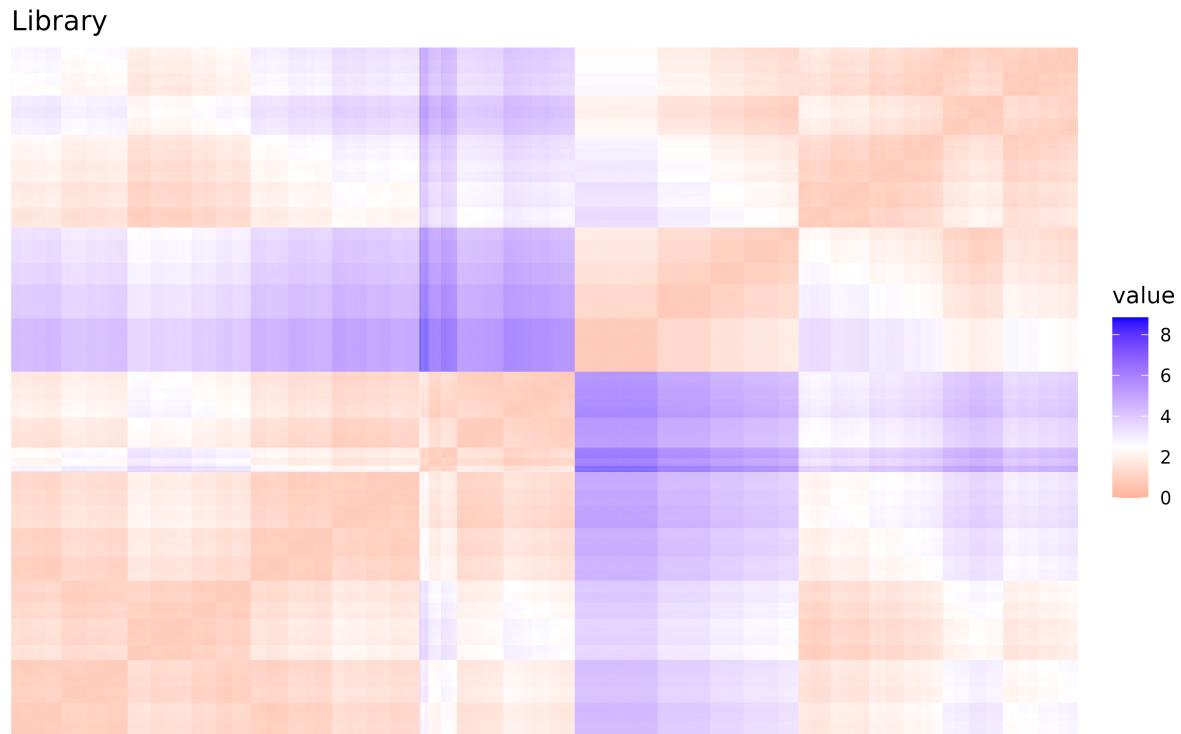


Figure 20: VAT plot for the log-transformed library amenity.

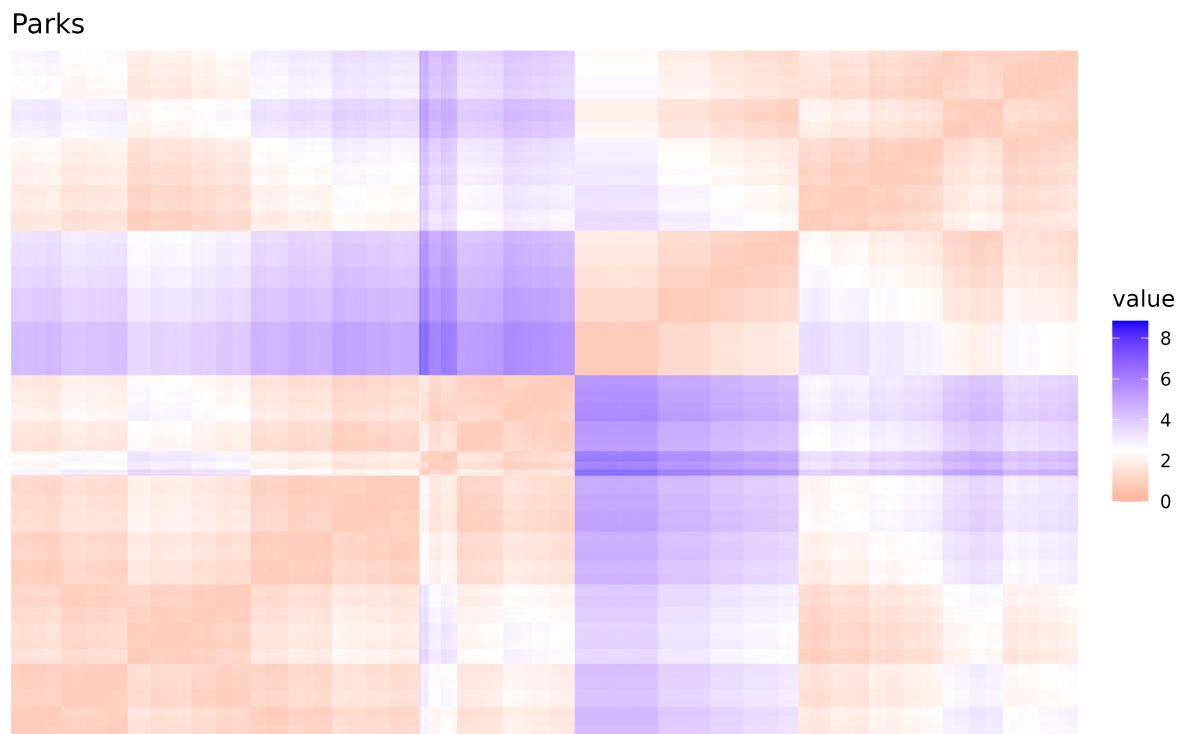


Figure 21: VAT plot for the log-transformed parks amenity.

Transit

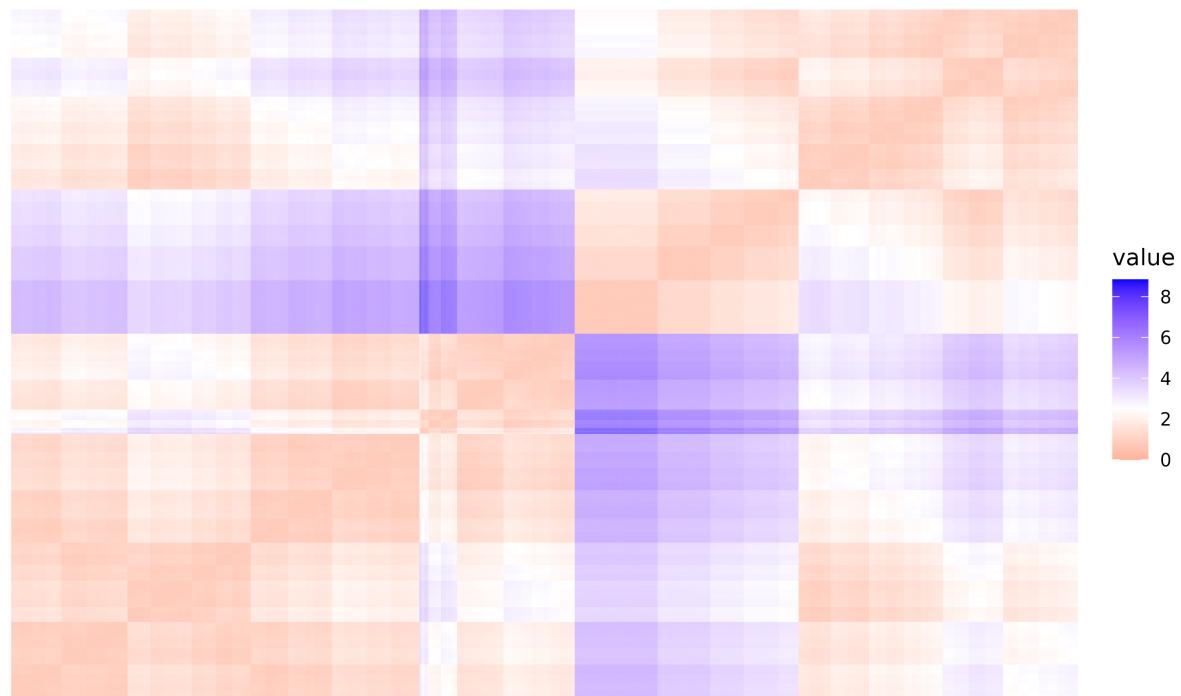


Figure 22: VAT plot for the log-transformed transit amenity.

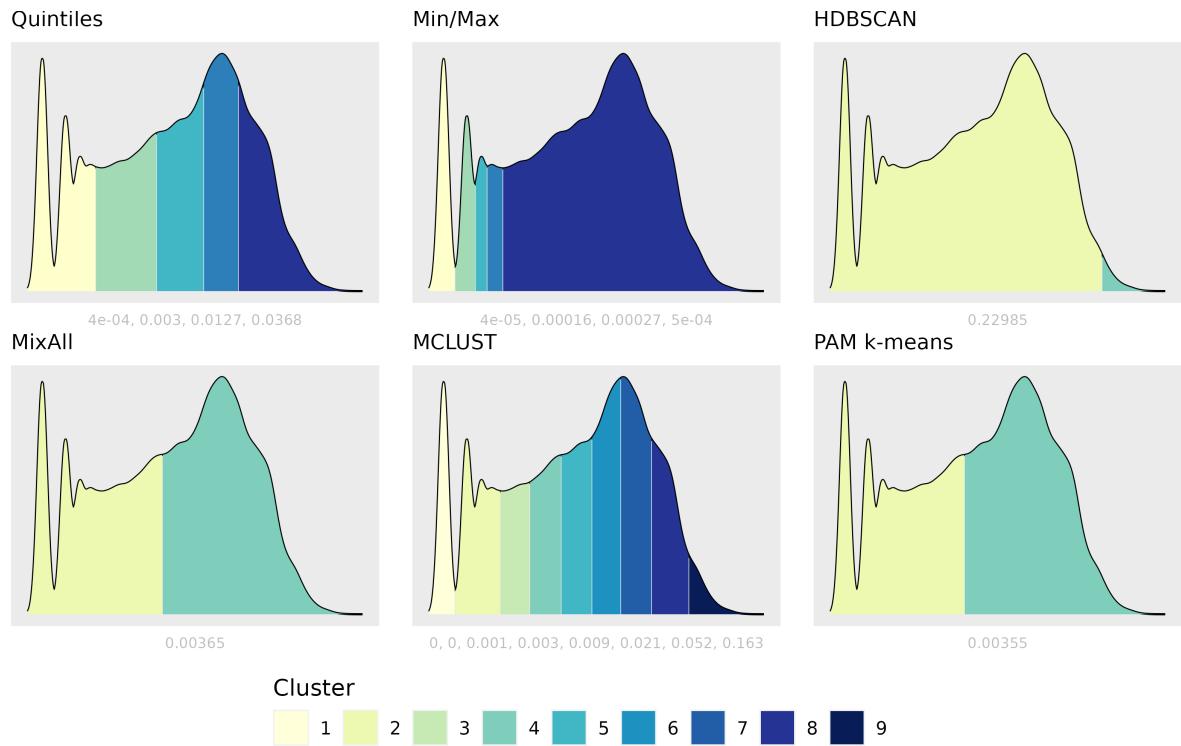


Figure 23: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches employment amenity.

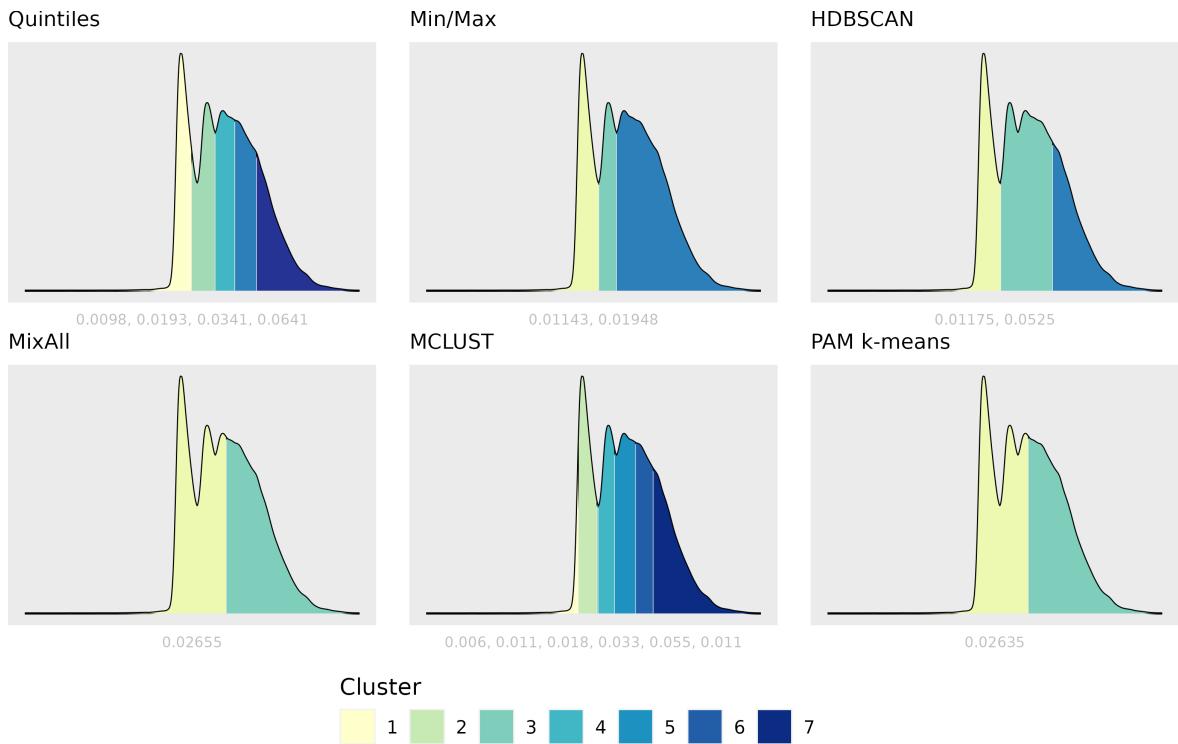


Figure 24: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches pharmacy amenity.

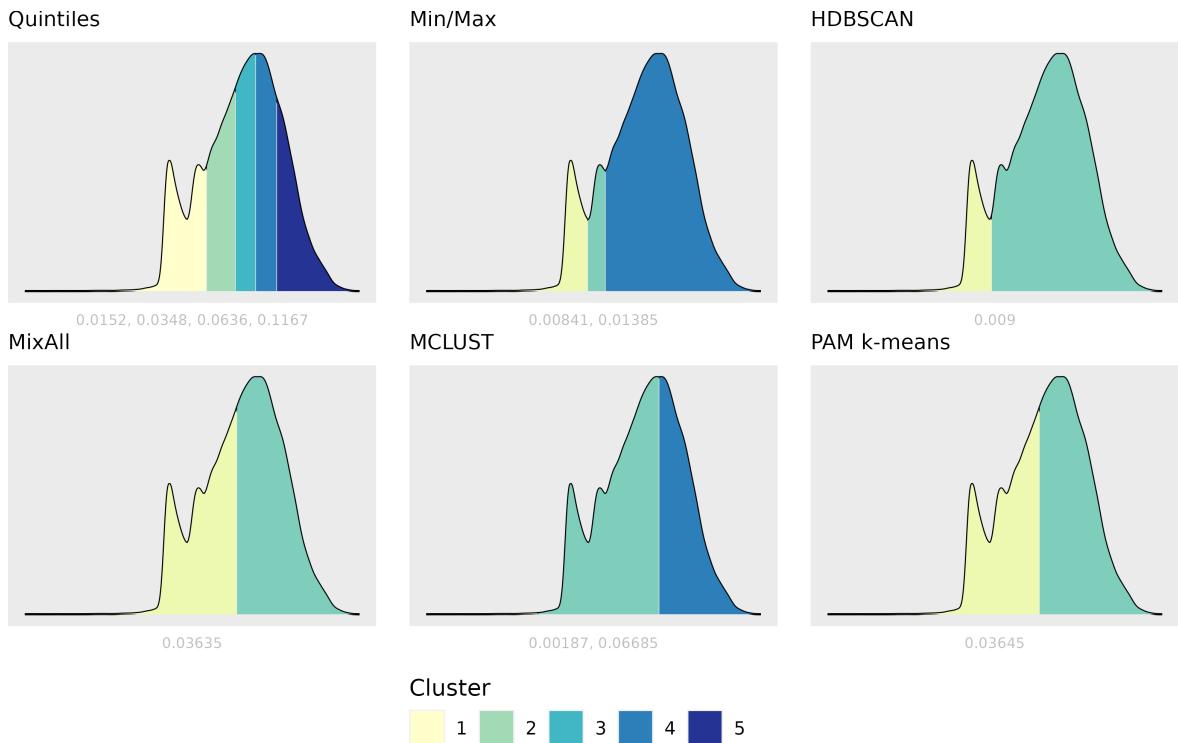


Figure 25: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches child care amenity.

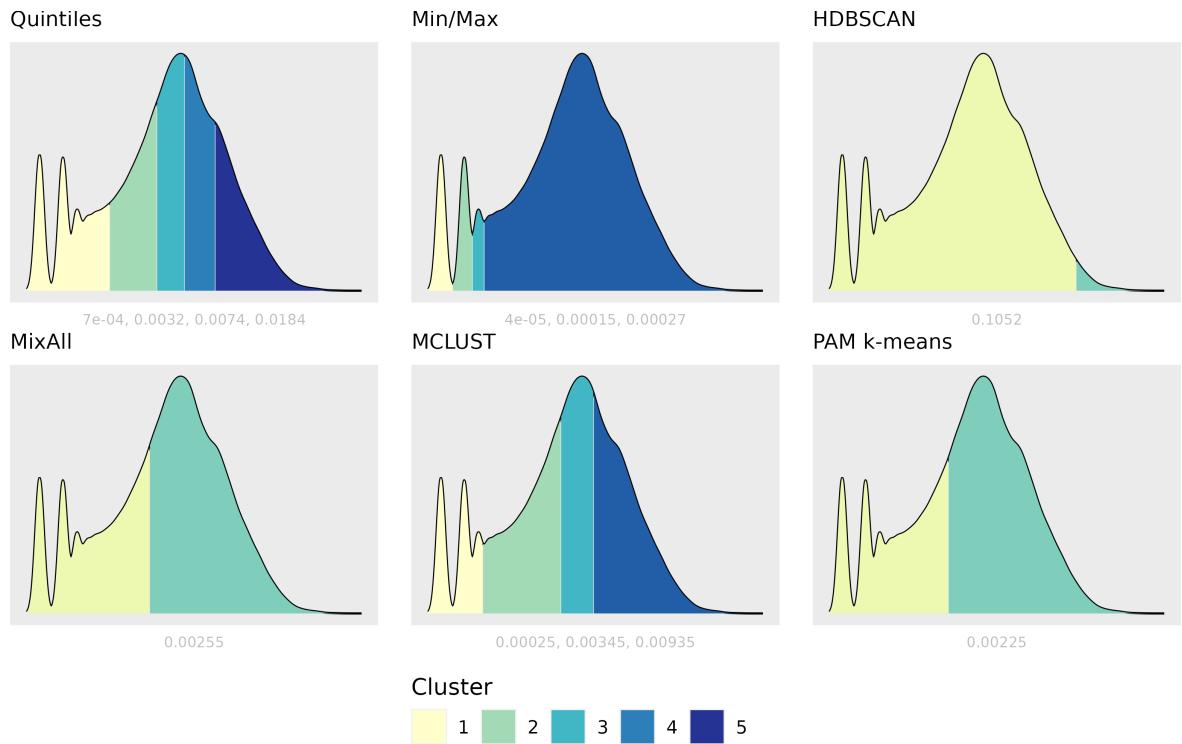


Figure 26: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches health care amenity.

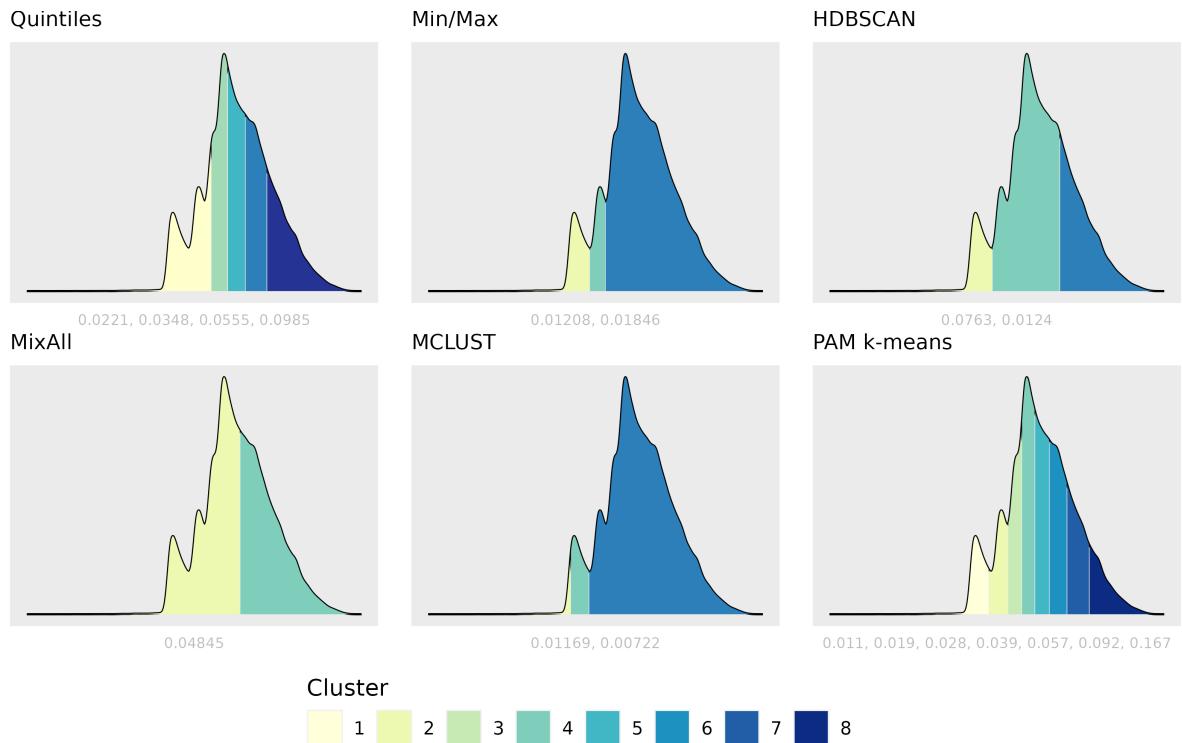


Figure 27: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches grocery amenity.

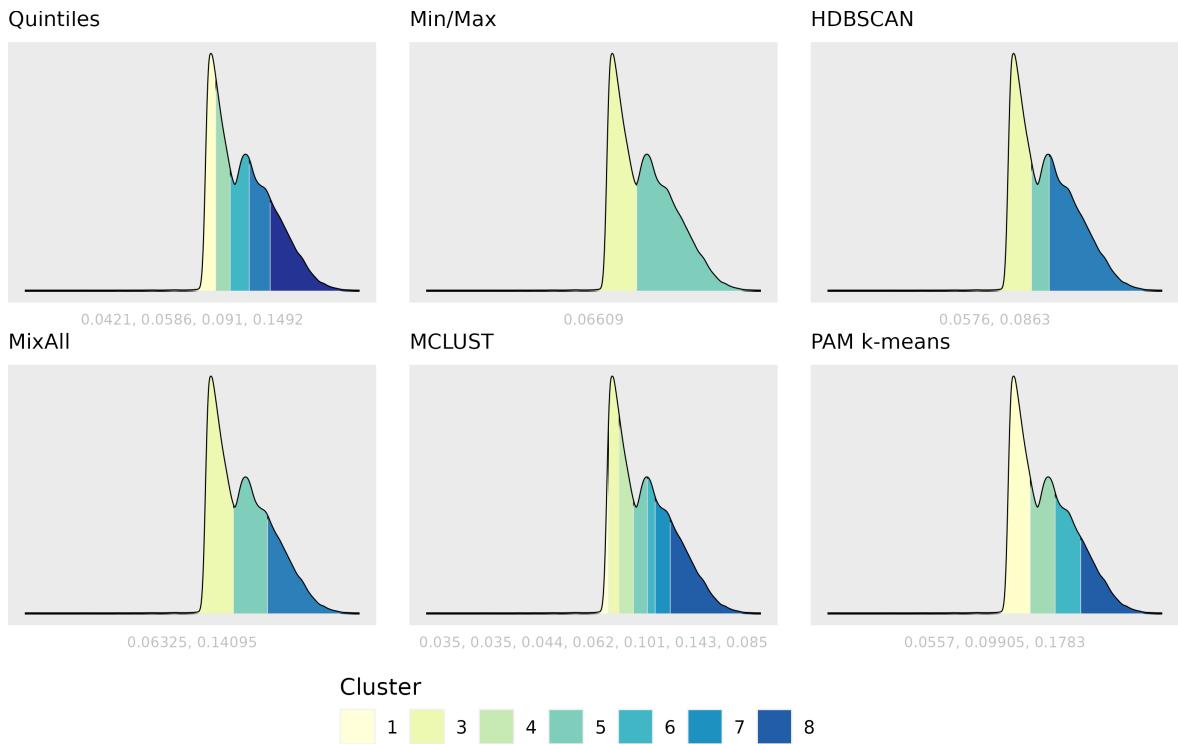


Figure 28: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches secondary education amenity.

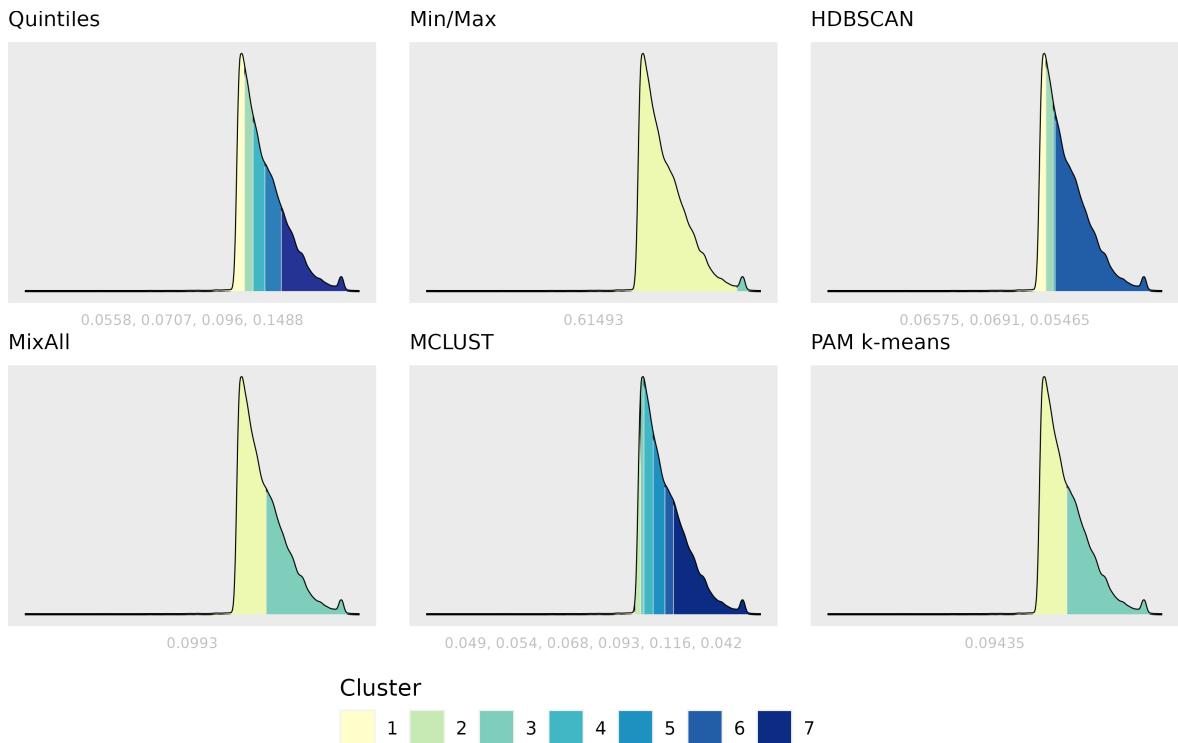


Figure 29: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches library amenity.

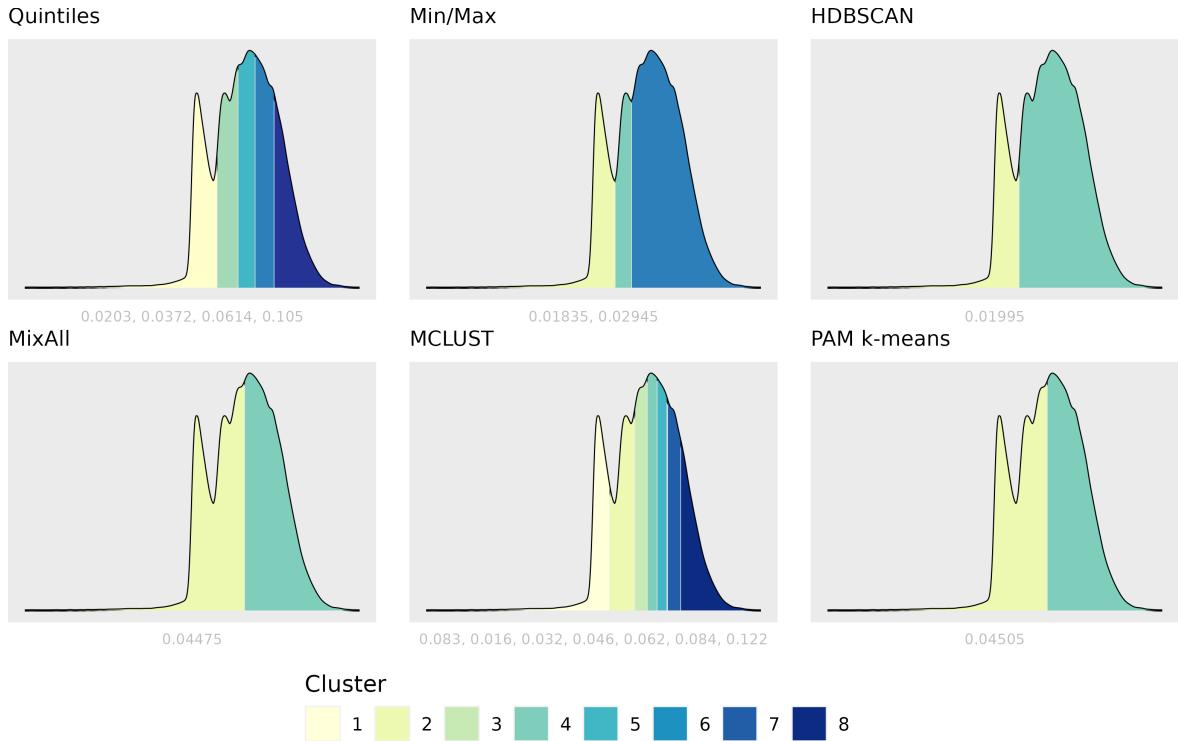


Figure 30: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches parks amenity.

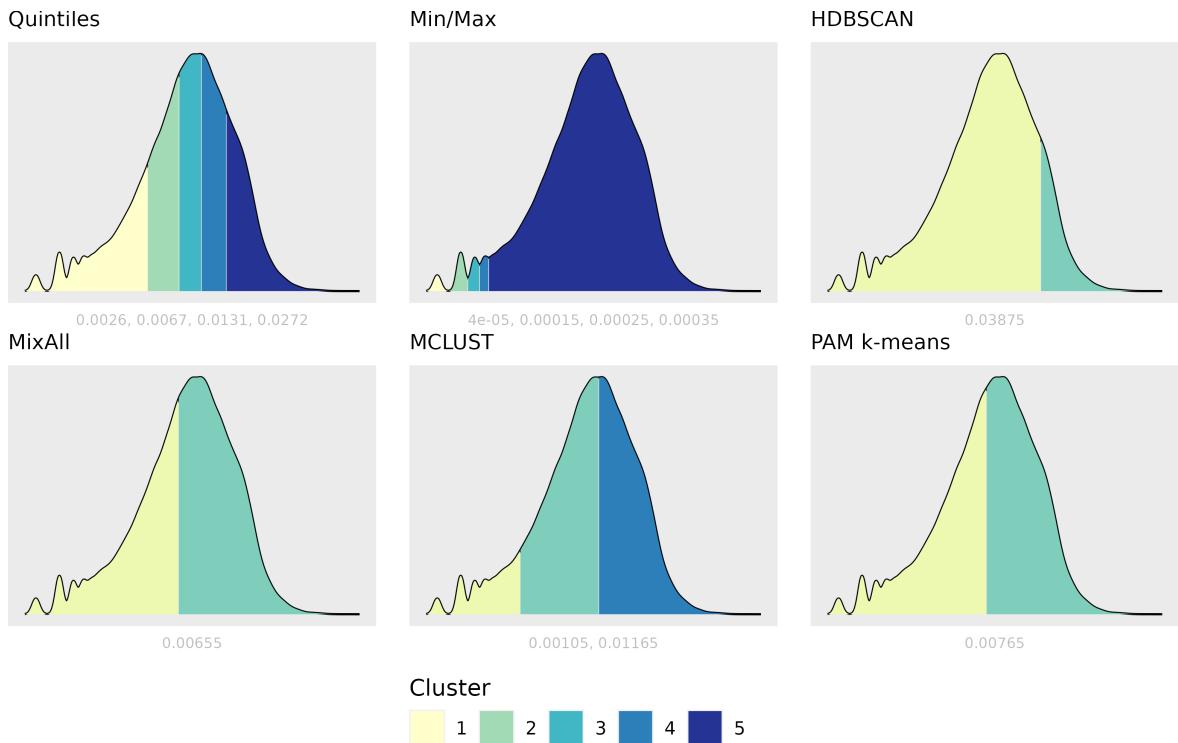


Figure 31: Cut-offs values shown on the log-transformed density plots for all clustering approaches transit amenity.

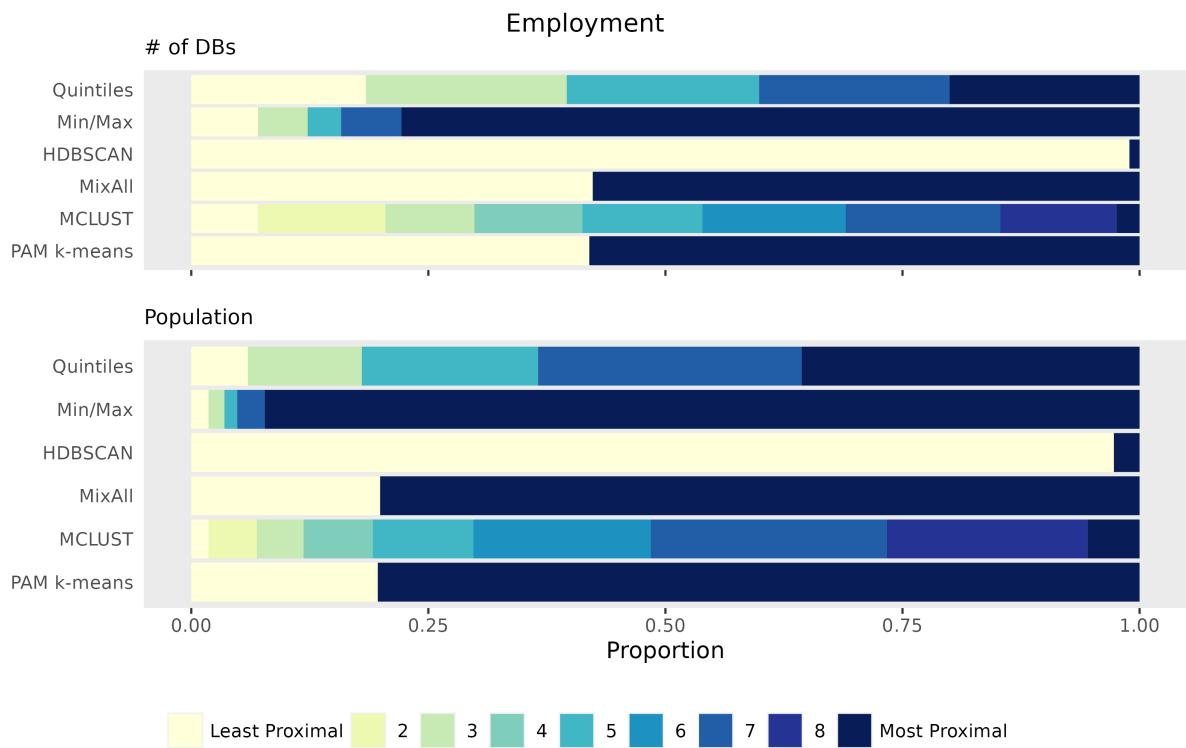


Figure 32: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the employment amenity.

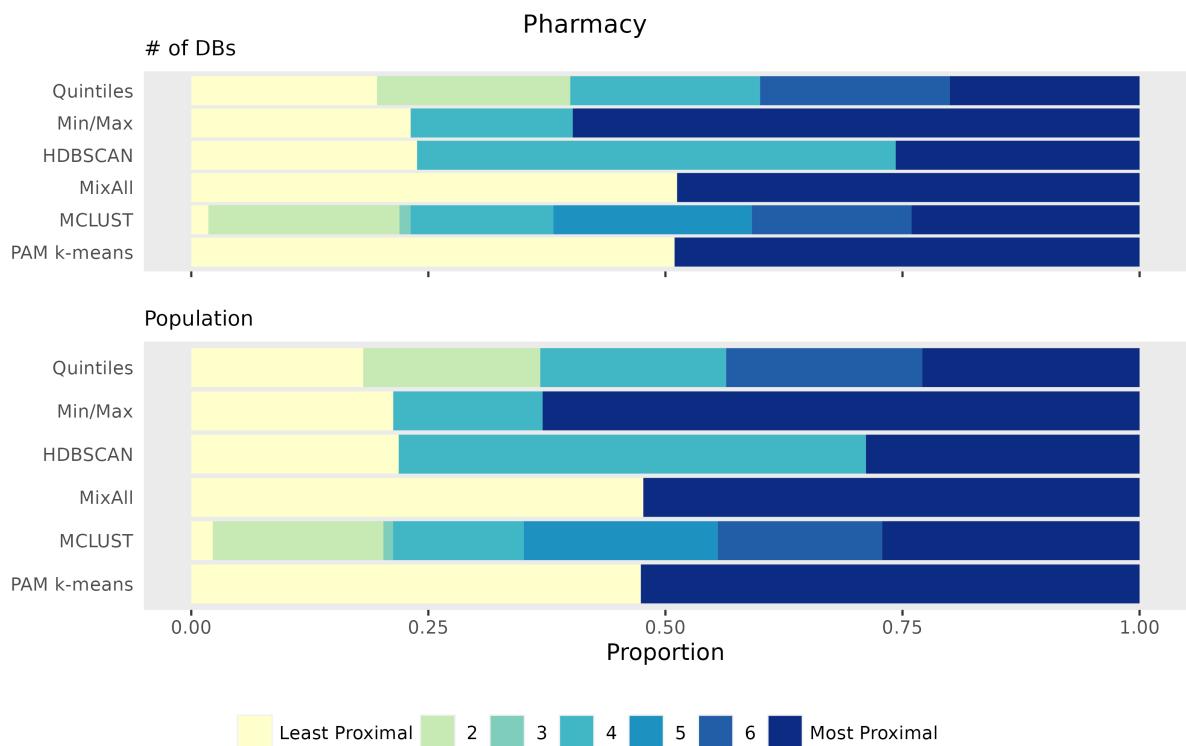


Figure 33: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the pharmacy amenity.

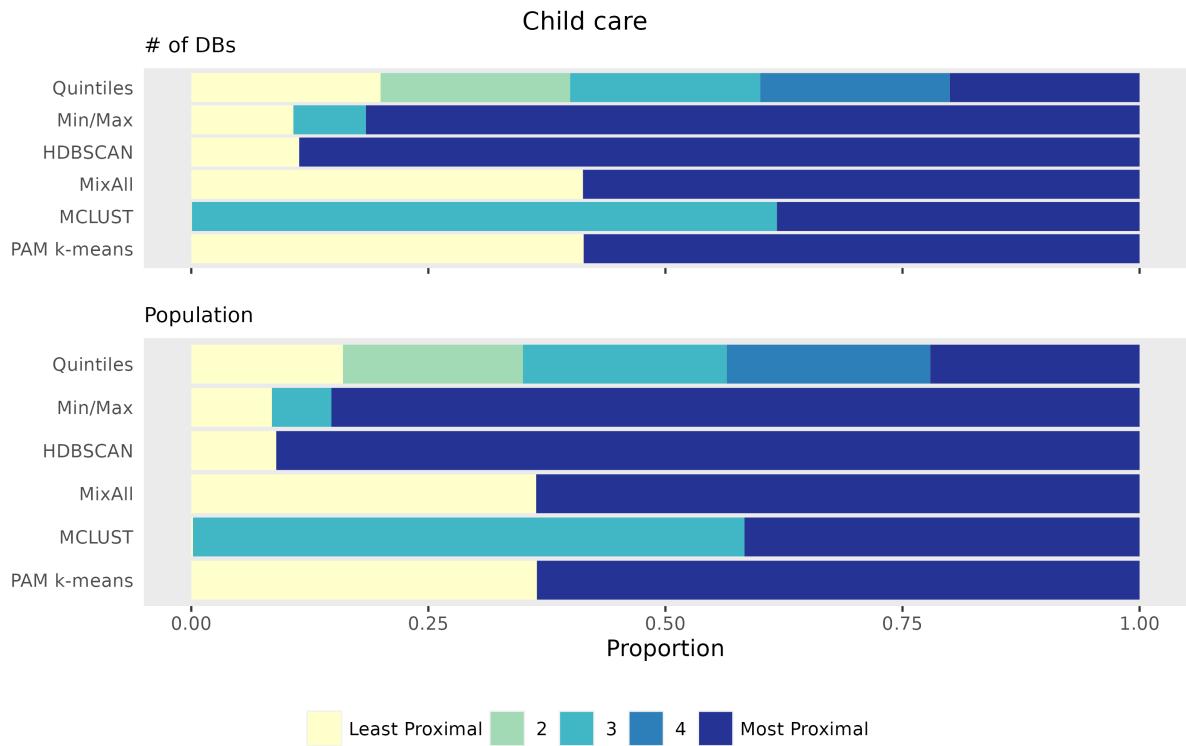


Figure 34: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the child care amenity.

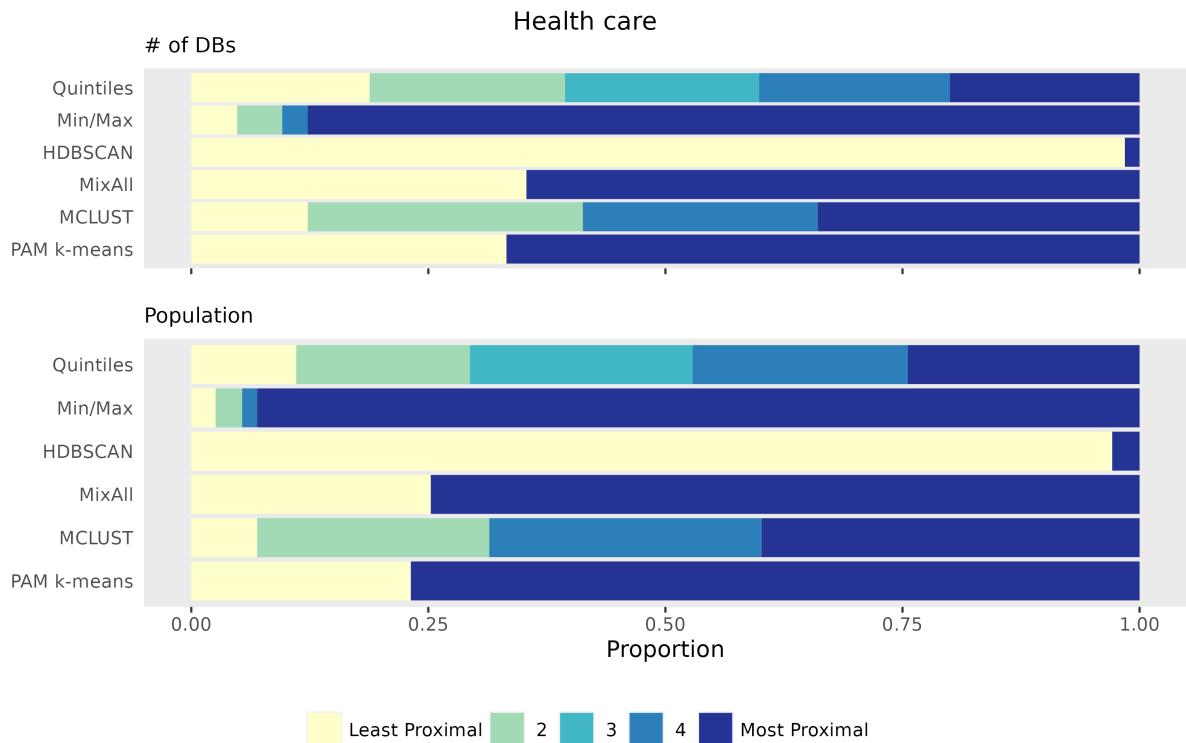


Figure 35: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the health care amenity.

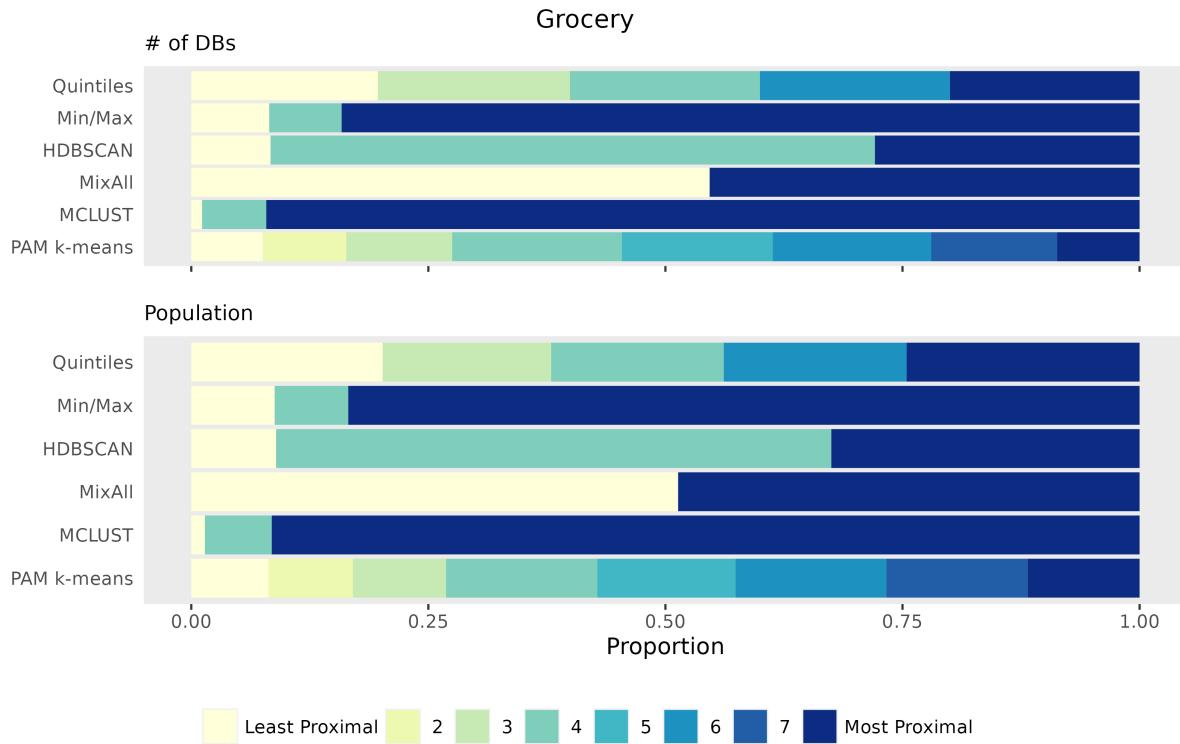


Figure 36: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the grocery amenity.

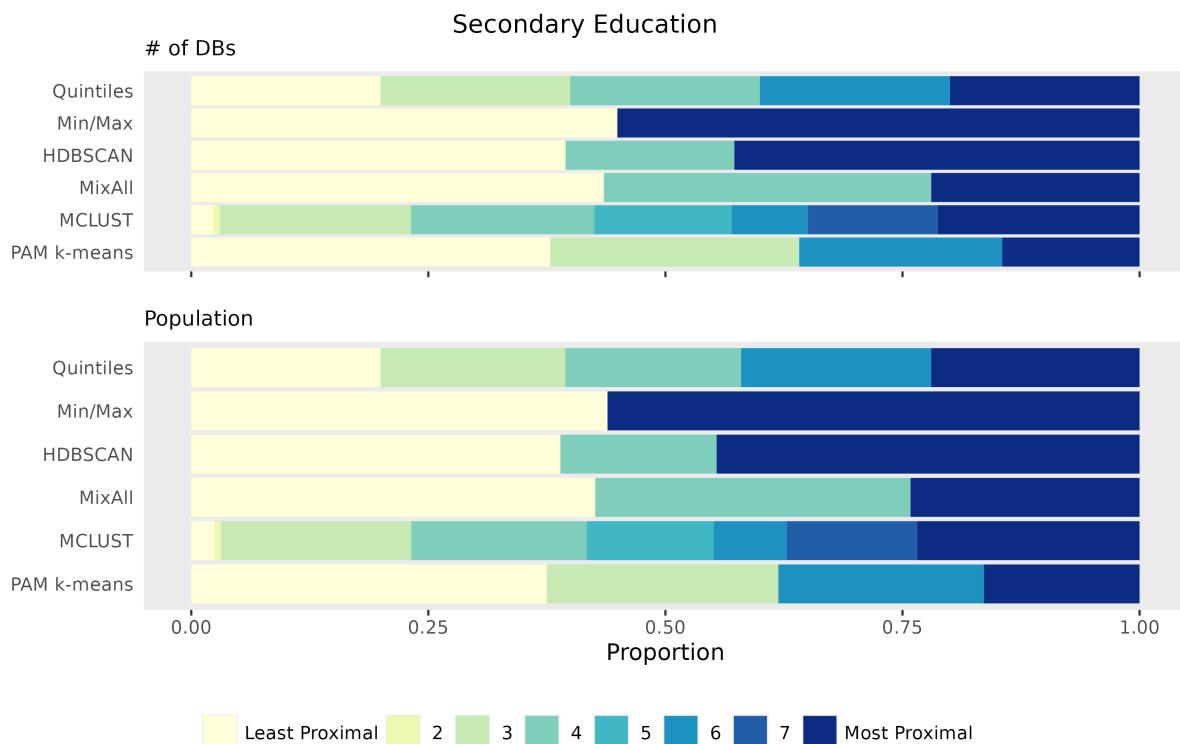


Figure 37: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the secondary education amenity.

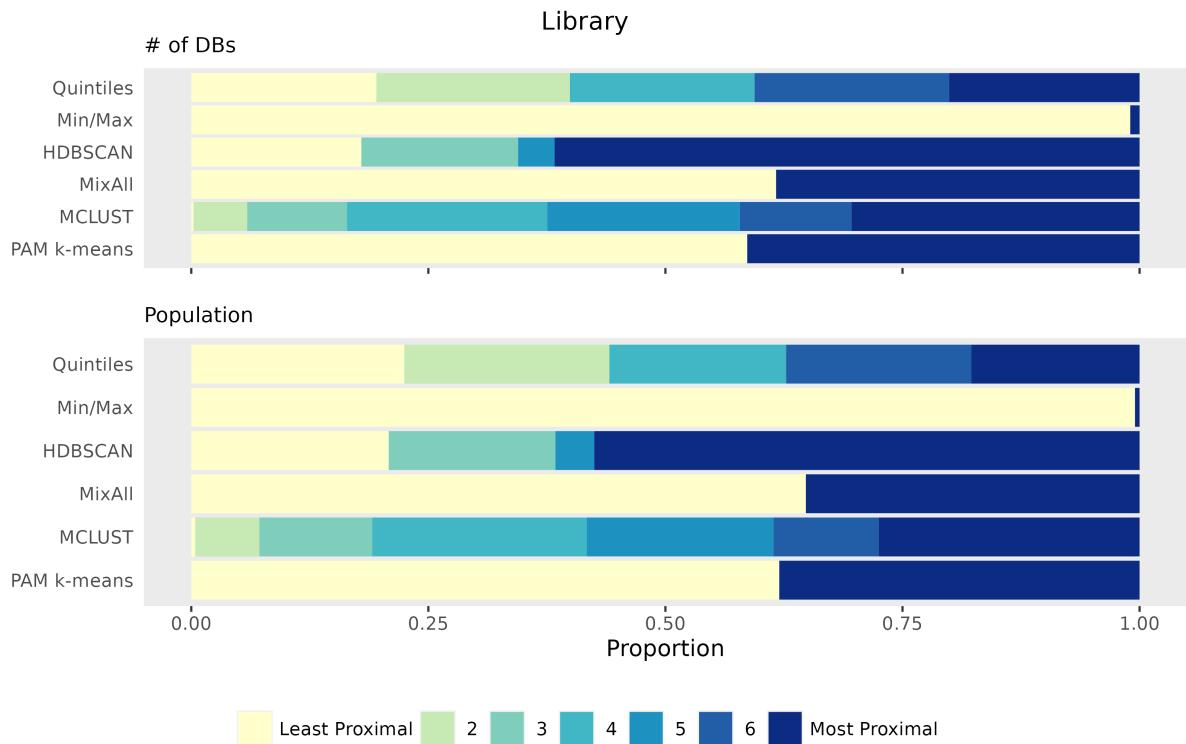


Figure 38: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the library amenity.

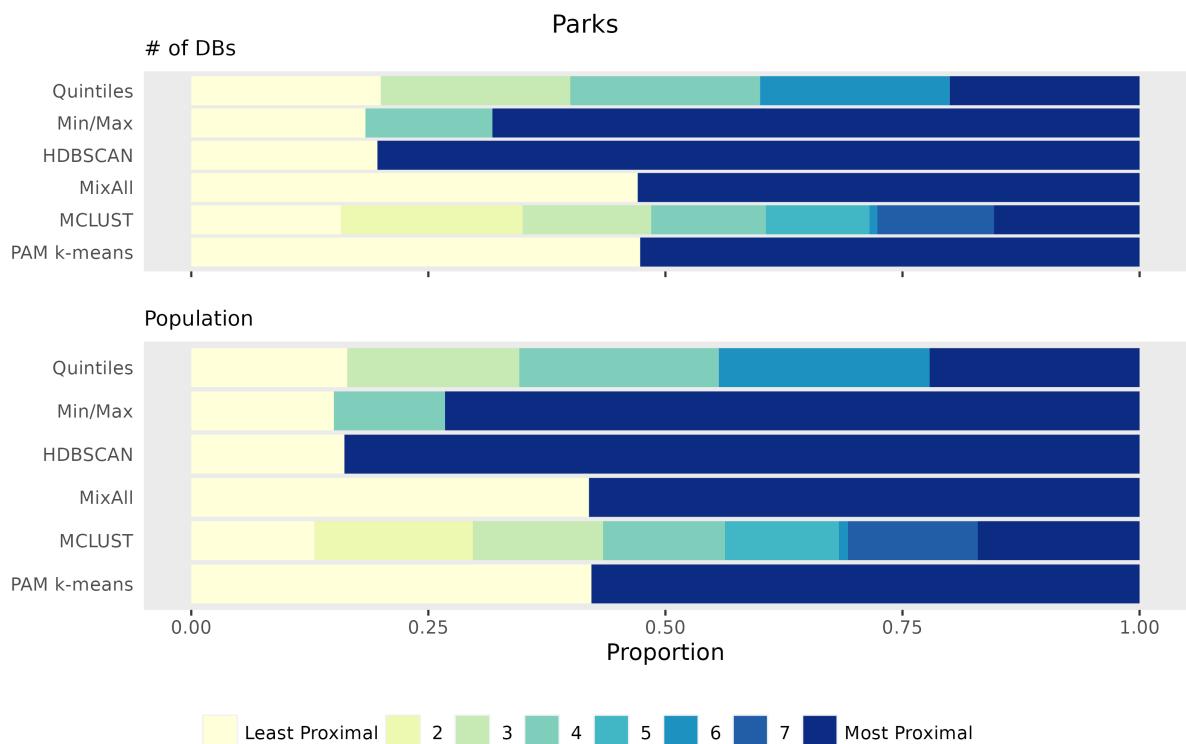


Figure 39: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the parks amenity.

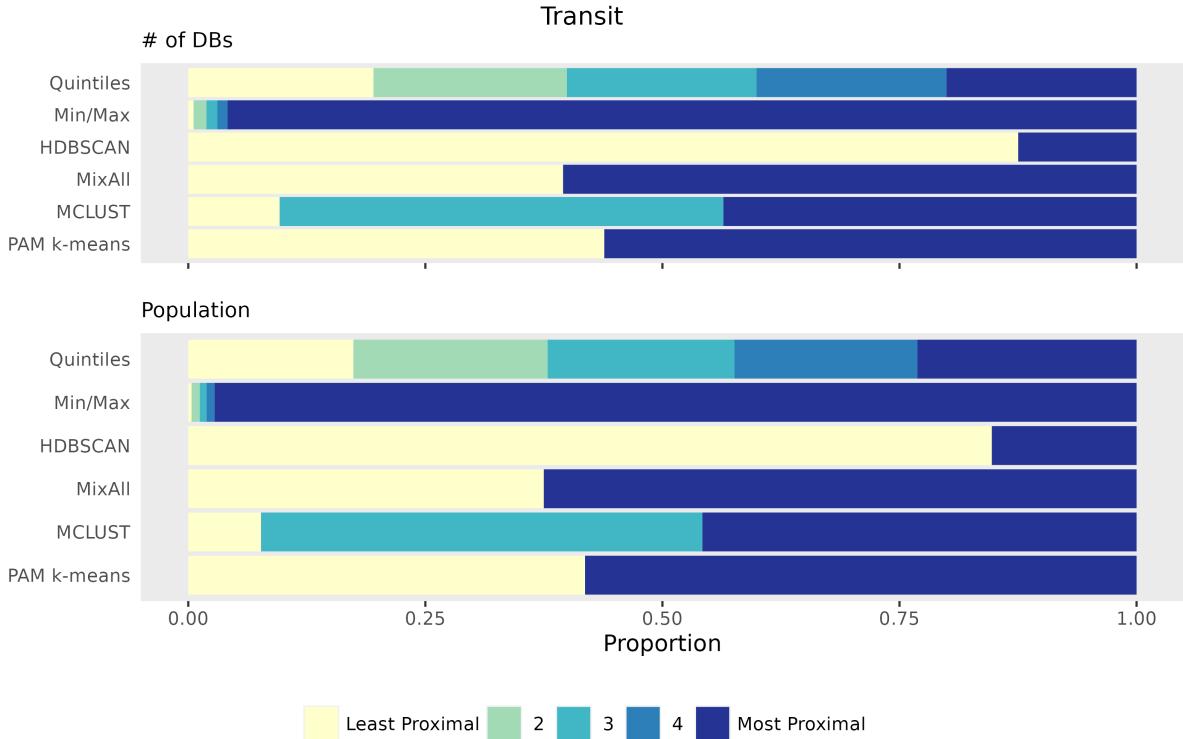


Figure 40: Proportion of DBs and population in each cluster for all approaches for the transit amenity.

Table 11: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the employment amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Employment	Range
Entire Population	423,602 (100.0%)	38	0.16	CMA (48.3%)	Ontario (18.2%)	Low (90.1%)	0.006	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	78,014 (18.4%)	10	0.29	None (80.9%)	NovaScotia (6.5%)	Low (100.0%)	0.000	0 - 4e-04
Min/Max C1	29,831 (7.0%)	5	0.32	None (83.6%)	NovaScotia (8.8%)	Low (100.0%)	0.000	0 - 0.0000
HDBSCAN C1	419,062 (98.9%)	38	0.16	CMA (47.7%)	Ontario (17.9%)	Low (90.9%)	0.006	0 - 0.2298
MixAll C1	179,334 (42.3%)	16	0.27	None (73.6%)	Ontario (7.2%)	Low (99.9%)	0.000	0 - 0.0036
MCLUST C1	29,831 (7.0%)	5	0.32	None (83.6%)	NovaScotia (8.8%)	Low (100.0%)	0.000	0 - 0.0000
PAM k-means C1	177,804 (42.0%)	16	0.27	None (73.8%)	Ontario (7.1%)	Low (99.9%)	0.000	0 - 0.0035
Quintiles C2	89,705 (21.2%)	23	0.24	None (69.6%)	Ontario (9.2%)	Low (99.9%)	0.001	4e-04 - 0.0030
Min/Max C2	22,179 (5.2%)	10	0.30	None (81.2%)	NovaScotia (5.6%)	Low (100.0%)	0.000	0.0000 - 2e-04
HDBSCAN C2	4,540 (1.1%)	122	0.03	CMA (100.0%)	Ontario (44.9%)	Med (45.9%)	0.292	0.2298 - 1
MixAll C2	244,268 (57.7%)	63	0.11	CMA (73.3%)	Ontario (26.3%)	Low (82.8%)	0.023	0.0036 - 1
MCLUST C2	56,902 (13.4%)	10	0.27	None (78.6%)	Ontario (6.3%)	Low (100.0%)	0.000	0.0000 - 4e-04
PAM k-means C2	245,798 (58.0%)	62	0.11	CMA (73.0%)	Ontario (26.2%)	Low (82.9%)	0.023	0.0035 - 1
Quintiles C3	85,928 (20.3%)	41	0.20	CMA (34.2%)	Ontario (12.7%)	Low (97.8%)	0.006	0.0030 - 0.0127
Min/Max C3	14,893 (3.5%)	10	0.27	None (78.3%)	Ontario (6.7%)	Low (100.0%)	0.000	2e-04 - 3e-04
MCLUST C3	39,730 (9.4%)	20	0.24	None (72.7%)	Ontario (9.4%)	Low (99.9%)	0.001	4e-04 - 0.0012
Quintiles C4	85,096 (20.1%)	65	0.11	CMA (79.7%)	Ontario (26.9%)	Low (89.9%)	0.022	0.0127 - 0.0368
Min/Max C4	26,887 (6.3%)	17	0.23	None (75.4%)	Ontario (8.6%)	Low (100.0%)	0.000	3e-04 - 5e-04
MCLUST C4	48,188 (11.4%)	27	0.25	None (64.2%)	Ontario (9.3%)	Low (99.7%)	0.002	0.0012 - 0.0033
Quintiles C5	84,859 (20.0%)	83	0.06	CMA (99.5%)	Ontario (37.2%)	Low (62.8%)	0.072	0.0368 - 1
Min/Max C5	329,812 (77.9%)	50	0.14	CMA (59.1%)	Ontario (21.9%)	Low (87.2%)	0.014	5e-04 - 1
MCLUST C5	53,628 (12.7%)	38	0.21	None (37.2%)	Ontario (11.3%)	Low (98.5%)	0.005	0.0033 - 0.0085
MCLUST C6	64,056 (15.1%)	57	0.14	CMA (61.2%)	Ontario (19.1%)	Low (93.8%)	0.014	0.0085 - 0.0206
MCLUST C7	69,082 (16.3%)	71	0.10	CMA (91.8%)	Ontario (34.7%)	Low (85.2%)	0.032	0.0206 - 0.0518
MCLUST C8	51,824 (12.2%)	82	0.06	CMA (99.8%)	Ontario (36.4%)	Low (63.8%)	0.081	0.0518 - 0.1629
MCLUST C9	10,361 (2.4%)	118	0.03	CMA (100.0%)	Quebec (37.9%)	Med (46.0%)	0.219	0.1629 - 1

Table 12: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the pharmacy amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Pharmacy	Range
Entire Population	178,521 (100.0%)	63	0.11	CMA (71.7%)	Ontario (27.4%)	Low (76.4%)	0.026	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	34,980 (19.6%)	60	0.13	CMA (64.1%)	Ontario (21.8%)	Low (91.5%)	0.007	0 - 0.0098
Min/Max C1	41,305 (23.1%)	59	0.13	CMA (63.9%)	Ontario (22.0%)	Low (91.6%)	0.008	0 - 0.0114
HDBSCAN C1	42,510 (23.8%)	59	0.13	CMA (63.9%)	Ontario (22.0%)	Low (91.6%)	0.008	0 - 0.0118
MixAll C1	91,454 (51.2%)	60	0.12	CMA (66.7%)	Ontario (24.1%)	Low (88.6%)	0.013	0 - 0.0265
MCLUST C1	3,222 (1.8%)	70	0.14	CMA (60.5%)	Ontario (20.7%)	Low (93.5%)	0.006	0 - 0.0064
PAM k-means C1	90,986 (51.0%)	60	0.12	CMA (66.6%)	Ontario (24.1%)	Low (88.7%)	0.013	0 - 0.0263
Quintiles C2	36,365 (20.4%)	60	0.12	CMA (66.8%)	Ontario (24.4%)	Low (88.7%)	0.014	0.0098 - 0.0193
Min/Max C2	30,505 (17.1%)	60	0.11	CMA (67.7%)	Ontario (24.7%)	Low (87.9%)	0.015	0.0114 - 0.0195
HDBSCAN C2	90,111 (50.5%)	63	0.11	CMA (71.5%)	Ontario (27.9%)	Low (81.2%)	0.025	0.0118 - 0.0525
MixAll C2	87,067 (48.8%)	67	0.10	CMA (77.0%)	Ontario (30.9%)	Low (63.6%)	0.055	0.0265 - 1
MCLUST C2	35,979 (20.2%)	59	0.13	CMA (64.3%)	Ontario (22.0%)	Low (91.4%)	0.008	0.0064 - 0.0108
PAM k-means C2	87,535 (49.0%)	67	0.10	CMA (77.0%)	Ontario (30.9%)	Low (63.7%)	0.055	0.0263 - 1
Quintiles C3	35,730 (20.0%)	63	0.11	CMA (72.1%)	Ontario (28.5%)	Low (81.3%)	0.026	0.0193 - 0.0341
Min/Max C3	106,711 (59.8%)	66	0.11	CMA (75.8%)	Ontario (30.3%)	Low (67.2%)	0.046	0.0195 - 1
HDBSCAN C3	45,900 (25.7%)	70	0.09	CMA (79.2%)	Ontario (31.5%)	Low (52.9%)	0.085	0.0525 - 1
MCLUST C3	2,075 (1.2%)	56	0.13	CMA (61.8%)	Ontario (23.1%)	Low (92.8%)	0.011	0.0108 - 0.0114
Quintiles C4	35,697 (20.0%)	66	0.11	CMA (75.0%)	Ontario (30.9%)	Low (72.0%)	0.046	0.0341 - 0.0641
MCLUST C4	26,864 (15.0%)	60	0.11	CMA (67.5%)	Ontario (24.7%)	Low (88.1%)	0.015	0.0114 - 0.0181
Quintiles C5	35,749 (20.0%)	71	0.08	CMA (80.3%)	Ontario (31.6%)	Low (48.5%)	0.098	0.0641 - 1
MCLUST C5	37,376 (20.9%)	62	0.11	CMA (71.8%)	Ontario (28.1%)	Low (82.0%)	0.025	0.0181 - 0.0332
MCLUST C6	30,077 (16.8%)	65	0.11	CMA (74.9%)	Ontario (30.8%)	Low (73.1%)	0.042	0.0332 - 0.0554
MCLUST C7	42,928 (24.0%)	70	0.09	CMA (79.5%)	Ontario (31.5%)	Low (51.8%)	0.088	0.0554 - 1

Table 13: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the child care amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Childcare	Range
Entire Population	243,964 (100.0%)	62	0.11	CMA (68.3%)	Ontario (23.9%)	Low (82.7%)	0.048	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	48,703 (20.0%)	41	0.18	CMA (46.5%)	Ontario (20.9%)	Low (96.2%)	0.008	0 - 0.0152
Min/Max C1	26,274 (10.8%)	40	0.19	CMA (43.6%)	Ontario (18.9%)	Low (96.9%)	0.006	0 - 0.0084
HDBSCAN C1	27,765 (11.4%)	40	0.19	CMA (43.5%)	Ontario (18.9%)	Low (96.9%)	0.006	0 - 0.0090
MixAll C1	100,768 (41.3%)	49	0.15	CMA (54.1%)	Ontario (25.3%)	Low (93.5%)	0.016	0 - 0.0363
MCLUST C1	172 (0.1%)	231	0.29	None (66.9%)	Quebec (8.7%)	Low (100.0%)	0.001	0 - 0.0019
PAM k-means C1	100,954 (41.4%)	49	0.15	CMA (54.1%)	Ontario (25.3%)	Low (93.5%)	0.016	0 - 0.0364
Quintiles C2	48,757 (20.0%)	55	0.13	CMA (60.8%)	Ontario (29.4%)	Low (91.3%)	0.024	0.0152 - 0.0348
Min/Max C2	18,663 (7.6%)	43	0.16	CMA (49.7%)	Ontario (23.2%)	Low (95.4%)	0.011	0.0084 - 0.0139
HDBSCAN C2	216,199 (88.6%)	65	0.11	CMA (71.5%)	Ontario (24.5%)	Low (80.9%)	0.056	0.0090 - 1
MixAll C2	143,196 (58.7%)	71	0.11	CMA (78.3%)	Ontario (22.9%)	Low (75.2%)	0.086	0.0363 - 1
MCLUST C2	150,501 (61.7%)	55	0.14	CMA (60.1%)	Ontario (26.2%)	Low (90.3%)	0.025	0.0019 - 0.0669
PAM k-means C2	143,010 (58.6%)	71	0.11	CMA (78.3%)	Ontario (22.8%)	Low (75.1%)	0.086	0.0364 - 1
Quintiles C3	48,909 (20.0%)	66	0.11	CMA (71.5%)	Ontario (28.3%)	Low (84.4%)	0.048	0.0348 - 0.0636
Min/Max C3	199,027 (81.6%)	67	0.11	CMA (73.3%)	Ontario (24.6%)	Low (79.7%)	0.062	0.0139 - 1
MCLUST C3	93,291 (38.2%)	74	0.10	CMA (81.6%)	Quebec (22.7%)	Low (70.5%)	0.120	0.0669 - 1
Quintiles C4	48,776 (20.0%)	69	0.11	CMA (77.0%)	Ontario (23.8%)	Low (78.4%)	0.085	0.0636 - 0.1167
Quintiles C5	48,819 (20.0%)	80	0.08	CMA (85.7%)	Quebec (35.3%)	Low (63.4%)	0.175	0.1167 - 1

Table 14: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the health care amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Healthcare	Range
Entire Population	300,465 (100.0%)	55	0.13	CMA (62.2%)	Ontario (22.8%)	Low (86.0%)	0.005	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	56,525 (18.8%)	26	0.20	None (48.0%)	Ontario (12.1%)	Low (99.7%)	0.000	0 - 7e-04
Min/Max C1	14,556 (4.8%)	23	0.19	None (56.5%)	Ontario (14.7%)	Low (99.8%)	0.000	0 - 0.0000
HDBSCAN C1	295,804 (98.4%)	54	0.13	CMA (61.7%)	Ontario (22.6%)	Low (87.0%)	0.005	0 - 0.1052
MixAll C1	106,196 (35.3%)	35	0.19	None (40.2%)	Ontario (13.2%)	Low (98.7%)	0.001	0 - 0.0025
MCLUST C1	36,901 (12.3%)	25	0.20	None (50.8%)	Ontario (13.2%)	Low (99.7%)	0.000	0 - 2e-04
PAM k-means C1	99,871 (33.2%)	34	0.19	None (41.2%)	Ontario (12.9%)	Low (98.9%)	0.000	0 - 0.0022
Quintiles C2	61,910 (20.6%)	48	0.15	CMA (50.9%)	Ontario (15.4%)	Low (97.1%)	0.002	7e-04 - 0.0032
Min/Max C2	14,259 (4.7%)	26	0.20	None (48.7%)	Ontario (12.6%)	Low (99.8%)	0.000	0.0000 - 2e-04
HDBSCAN C2	4,661 (1.6%)	102	0.03	CMA (95.4%)	Ontario (38.3%)	Med (43.5%)	0.142	0.1052 - 1
MixAll C2	194,269 (64.7%)	67	0.11	CMA (74.4%)	Ontario (28.1%)	Low (79.0%)	0.010	0.0025 - 1
MCLUST C2	87,182 (29.0%)	44	0.16	CMA (48.3%)	Ontario (14.6%)	Low (97.4%)	0.001	2e-04 - 0.0034
PAM k-means C2	200,594 (66.8%)	66	0.11	CMA (73.8%)	Ontario (27.8%)	Low (79.6%)	0.010	0.0022 - 1
Quintiles C3	61,500 (20.5%)	66	0.11	CMA (69.5%)	Ontario (25.6%)	Low (91.7%)	0.005	0.0032 - 0.0074
Min/Max C3	8,086 (2.7%)	26	0.20	None (44.4%)	Ontario (11.4%)	Low (99.6%)	0.000	2e-04 - 3e-04
MCLUST C3	74,409 (24.8%)	67	0.11	CMA (70.5%)	Ontario (26.7%)	Low (90.2%)	0.006	0.0034 - 0.0093
Quintiles C4	60,378 (20.1%)	65	0.11	CMA (71.4%)	Ontario (28.7%)	Low (83.4%)	0.011	0.0074 - 0.0184
Min/Max C4	263,564 (87.7%)	60	0.12	CMA (66.6%)	Ontario (24.2%)	Low (84.1%)	0.006	3e-04 - 1
MCLUST C4	101,973 (33.9%)	68	0.10	CMA (79.4%)	Ontario (30.5%)	Low (68.1%)	0.022	0.0093 - 1
Quintiles C5	60,152 (20.0%)	71	0.10	CMA (85.2%)	Ontario (31.7%)	Low (58.5%)	0.034	0.0184 - 1

Table 15: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the grocery amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Grocery	Range
Entire Population	141,063 (100.0%)	61	0.11	CMA (69.3%)	Ontario (25.1%)	Low (70.1%)	0.043	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	27,762 (19.7%)	65	0.11	CMA (71.9%)	Ontario (28.1%)	Low (81.9%)	0.014	0 - 0.0221
Min/Max C1	11,600 (8.2%)	67	0.11	CMA (73.5%)	Ontario (28.6%)	Low (82.5%)	0.009	0 - 0.0121
HDBSCAN C1	11,799 (8.4%)	67	0.11	CMA (73.4%)	Ontario (28.5%)	Low (82.6%)	0.009	0 - 0.0124
MixAll C1	77,110 (54.7%)	60	0.12	CMA (66.0%)	Ontario (25.4%)	Low (79.9%)	0.027	0 - 0.0484
MCLUST C1	1,615 (1.1%)	77	0.11	CMA (66.8%)	Ontario (27.1%)	Low (85.8%)	0.007	0 - 0.0072
PAM k-means C1	10,674 (7.6%)	68	0.11	CMA (73.8%)	Ontario (28.6%)	Low (82.6%)	0.008	0 - 0.0113
Quintiles C2	28,569 (20.3%)	56	0.13	CMA (61.3%)	Ontario (23.2%)	Low (80.6%)	0.029	0.0221 - 0.0348
Min/Max C2	10,766 (7.6%)	66	0.11	CMA (72.7%)	Ontario (28.9%)	Low (81.6%)	0.016	0.0121 - 0.0185
HDBSCAN C2	89,898 (63.7%)	58	0.12	CMA (65.2%)	Ontario (25.0%)	Low (76.8%)	0.035	0.0124 - 0.0763
MixAll C2	63,953 (45.3%)	64	0.11	CMA (73.3%)	Ontario (24.8%)	Low (58.4%)	0.090	0.0484 - 1
MCLUST C2	9,542 (6.8%)	66	0.11	CMA (74.8%)	Ontario (28.9%)	Low (81.9%)	0.009	0.0072 - 0.0117
PAM k-means C2	12,384 (8.8%)	66	0.11	CMA (72.6%)	Ontario (28.8%)	Low (81.5%)	0.016	0.0113 - 0.0189
Quintiles C3	28,266 (20.0%)	58	0.12	CMA (64.6%)	Ontario (25.1%)	Low (74.7%)	0.043	0.0348 - 0.0555
Min/Max C3	118,697 (84.1%)	60	0.11	CMA (68.6%)	Ontario (24.5%)	Low (67.9%)	0.053	0.0185 - 1
HDBSCAN C3	39,366 (27.9%)	69	0.10	CMA (77.4%)	Ontario (24.5%)	Low (51.2%)	0.126	0.0763 - 1
MCLUST C3	129,906 (92.1%)	61	0.11	CMA (68.9%)	Ontario (24.9%)	Low (69.1%)	0.048	0.0117 - 1
PAM k-means C3	15,758 (11.2%)	55	0.14	CMA (60.9%)	Ontario (23.2%)	Low (81.8%)	0.023	0.0189 - 0.0275
Quintiles C4	28,248 (20.0%)	58	0.11	CMA (68.5%)	Ontario (24.9%)	Low (67.3%)	0.072	0.0555 - 0.0985
PAM k-means C4	25,218 (17.9%)	57	0.13	CMA (63.1%)	Ontario (24.0%)	Low (79.0%)	0.033	0.0275 - 0.0389
Quintiles C5	28,218 (20.0%)	74	0.08	CMA (80.3%)	Ontario (24.5%)	Low (46.2%)	0.154	0.0985 - 1
PAM k-means C5	22,468 (15.9%)	58	0.12	CMA (65.2%)	Ontario (25.2%)	Low (73.4%)	0.047	0.0389 - 0.0574
PAM k-means C6	23,558 (16.7%)	58	0.11	CMA (68.2%)	Ontario (24.8%)	Low (67.8%)	0.071	0.0574 - 0.0919
PAM k-means C7	18,749 (13.3%)	67	0.10	CMA (75.1%)	Ontario (25.7%)	Low (56.1%)	0.119	0.0919 - 0.1674
PAM k-means C8	12,254 (8.7%)	85	0.06	CMA (86.1%)	Quebec (31.8%)	Med (40.8%)	0.232	0.1674 - 1

Table 16: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the secondary education amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Sec. Educ.	Range
Entire Population	141,213 (100.0%)	58	0.14	CMA (62.5%)	Ontario (18.2%)	Low (77.2%)	0.074	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	28,202 (20.0%)	58	0.13	CMA (63.4%)	Ontario (25.6%)	Low (82.8%)	0.037	0 - 0.0421
Min/Max C1	63,449 (44.9%)	56	0.14	CMA (61.0%)	Ontario (24.2%)	Low (82.9%)	0.043	0 - 0.0661
HDBSCAN C1	55,741 (39.5%)	57	0.13	CMA (61.8%)	Ontario (24.6%)	Low (82.8%)	0.042	0 - 0.0576
MixAll C1	61,440 (43.5%)	56	0.13	CMA (61.2%)	Ontario (24.3%)	Low (82.9%)	0.043	0 - 0.0632
MCLUST C1	3,273 (2.3%)	62	0.14	CMA (61.3%)	Ontario (24.4%)	Low (84.8%)	0.034	0 - 0.0346
PAM k-means C1	53,475 (37.9%)	57	0.13	CMA (62.0%)	Ontario (24.8%)	Low (82.7%)	0.041	0 - 0.0557
Quintiles C2	28,226 (20.0%)	55	0.14	CMA (60.1%)	Ontario (23.5%)	Low (82.7%)	0.048	0.0421 - 0.0586
Min/Max C2	77,764 (55.1%)	60	0.14	CMA (63.7%)	BritishColumbia (15.5%)	Low (72.6%)	0.122	0.0661 - 1
HDBSCAN C2	25,135 (17.8%)	53	0.15	CMA (58.0%)	Ontario (19.1%)	Low (81.3%)	0.072	0.0576 - 0.0863
MixAll C2	48,748 (34.5%)	56	0.14	CMA (60.8%)	Ontario (16.2%)	Low (77.0%)	0.092	0.0632 - 0.1409
MCLUST C2	996 (0.7%)	62	0.12	CMA (65.4%)	Ontario (28.7%)	Low (80.9%)	0.035	0.0346 - 0.0347
PAM k-means C2	37,062 (26.2%)	54	0.15	CMA (58.7%)	Ontario (18.5%)	Low (80.3%)	0.076	0.0557 - 0.0990
Quintiles C3	28,260 (20.0%)	53	0.15	CMA (58.4%)	Ontario (18.6%)	Low (80.7%)	0.074	0.0586 - 0.0910
HDBSCAN C3	60,337 (42.7%)	62	0.14	CMA (64.9%)	BritishColumbia (17.8%)	Low (70.4%)	0.143	0.0863 - 1
MixAll C3	31,025 (22.0%)	66	0.11	CMA (67.4%)	BritishColumbia (23.2%)	Low (66.5%)	0.204	0.1409 - 1
MCLUST C3	28,454 (20.1%)	57	0.13	CMA (63.4%)	Ontario (25.5%)	Low (82.5%)	0.039	0.0347 - 0.0438
PAM k-means C3	30,221 (21.4%)	59	0.14	CMA (63.5%)	BritishColumbia (15.4%)	Low (72.5%)	0.129	0.0990 - 0.1783
Quintiles C4	28,273 (20.0%)	58	0.14	CMA (62.7%)	Ontario (14.2%)	Low (74.0%)	0.114	0.0910 - 0.1492
MCLUST C4	27,303 (19.3%)	54	0.14	CMA (59.1%)	Ontario (23.0%)	Low (83.0%)	0.051	0.0438 - 0.0618
PAM k-means C4	20,455 (14.5%)	69	0.11	CMA (68.9%)	BritishColumbia (25.2%)	Low (64.3%)	0.243	0.1783 - 1
Quintiles C5	28,252 (20.0%)	67	0.11	CMA (67.6%)	BritishColumbia (23.8%)	Low (66.0%)	0.213	0.1492 - 1
MCLUST C5	20,457 (14.5%)	53	0.15	CMA (58.3%)	Ontario (18.6%)	Low (81.0%)	0.074	0.0618 - 0.0855
MCLUST C6	11,341 (8.0%)	56	0.15	CMA (61.1%)	Ontario (16.3%)	Low (76.5%)	0.093	0.0855 - 0.1011
MCLUST C7	19,329 (13.7%)	59	0.14	CMA (63.1%)	Ontario (13.7%)	Low (73.3%)	0.120	0.1011 - 0.1434
MCLUST C8	30,060 (21.3%)	67	0.11	CMA (67.5%)	BritishColumbia (23.4%)	Low (66.3%)	0.207	0.1434 - 1

Table 17: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the library amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Library	Range
Entire Population	112,655 (100.0%)	48	0.14	CMA (54.4%)	Ontario (21.4%)	Low (62.6%)	0.081	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	21,995 (19.5%)	61	0.12	CMA (63.2%)	Ontario (24.0%)	Low (64.7%)	0.050	0 - 0.0558
Min/Max C1	111,546 (99.0%)	48	0.14	CMA (54.6%)	Ontario (21.5%)	Low (62.5%)	0.080	0 - 0.6149
HDBSCAN C1	20,209 (17.9%)	62	0.12	CMA (63.3%)	Ontario (24.1%)	Low (64.7%)	0.050	0 - 0.0546
MixAll C1	69,474 (61.7%)	55	0.14	CMA (58.0%)	Ontario (22.5%)	Low (63.8%)	0.063	0 - 0.0993
MCLUST C1	268 (0.2%)	114	0.30	None (83.6%)	NovaScotia (3.4%)	Low (100.0%)	0.029	0 - 0.0417
PAM k-means C1	66,047 (58.6%)	55	0.13	CMA (58.5%)	Ontario (22.7%)	Low (63.9%)	0.062	0 - 0.0943
Quintiles C2	22,988 (20.4%)	56	0.13	CMA (59.6%)	Ontario (23.3%)	Low (63.8%)	0.062	0.0558 - 0.0707
Min/Max C2	1,109 (1.0%)	19	0.22	None (49.4%)	Ontario (14.1%)	Low (71.2%)	0.719	0.6149 - 1
HDBSCAN C2	18,620 (16.5%)	56	0.13	CMA (60.3%)	Ontario (23.5%)	Low (63.9%)	0.060	0.0546 - 0.0658
MixAll C2	43,181 (38.3%)	38	0.15	CMA (48.4%)	Ontario (19.6%)	Low (60.6%)	0.152	0.0993 - 1
MCLUST C2	6,381 (5.7%)	63	0.11	CMA (65.7%)	Ontario (25.2%)	Low (64.4%)	0.048	0.0417 - 0.0488
PAM k-means C2	46,608 (41.4%)	38	0.15	CMA (48.5%)	Ontario (19.6%)	Low (60.8%)	0.146	0.0943 - 1
Quintiles C3	21,932 (19.5%)	48	0.15	CMA (52.1%)	Ontario (20.6%)	Low (63.2%)	0.080	0.0707 - 0.0960
HDBSCAN C3	4,331 (3.8%)	55	0.13	CMA (58.9%)	Ontario (22.7%)	Low (63.9%)	0.067	0.0658 - 0.0691
MCLUST C3	11,854 (10.5%)	60	0.12	CMA (63.3%)	Ontario (23.9%)	Low (64.1%)	0.051	0.0488 - 0.0538
Quintiles C4	23,117 (20.5%)	44	0.15	CMA (51.1%)	Ontario (20.4%)	Low (60.1%)	0.116	0.0960 - 0.1488
HDBSCAN C4	69,495 (61.7%)	42	0.15	CMA (49.9%)	Ontario (20.0%)	Low (61.6%)	0.115	0.0691 - 1
MCLUST C4	23,791 (21.1%)	56	0.13	CMA (60.2%)	Ontario (23.5%)	Low (63.9%)	0.060	0.0538 - 0.0682
Quintiles C5	22,623 (20.1%)	33	0.17	CMA (45.8%)	Ontario (18.8%)	Low (61.3%)	0.211	0.1488 - 1
MCLUST C5	22,881 (20.3%)	49	0.14	CMA (53.2%)	Ontario (20.9%)	Low (63.1%)	0.079	0.0682 - 0.0927
MCLUST C6	13,289 (11.8%)	45	0.15	CMA (50.7%)	Ontario (19.9%)	Low (61.5%)	0.103	0.0927 - 0.1163
MCLUST C7	34,191 (30.4%)	36	0.16	CMA (47.6%)	Ontario (19.4%)	Low (60.6%)	0.170	0.1163 - 1

Table 18: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the parks amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Parks	Range
Entire Population	234,068 (100.0%)	62	0.11	CMA (68.4%)	Ontario (25.3%)	Low (82.3%)	0.048	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	46,782 (20.0%)	45	0.16	CMA (47.2%)	Ontario (16.1%)	Low (95.7%)	0.013	0 - 0.0203
Min/Max C1	42,995 (18.4%)	45	0.16	CMA (47.1%)	Ontario (16.0%)	Low (95.7%)	0.012	0 - 0.0183
HDBSCAN C1	45,949 (19.6%)	45	0.16	CMA (47.1%)	Ontario (16.1%)	Low (95.7%)	0.013	0 - 0.0200
MixAll C1	110,198 (47.1%)	52	0.14	CMA (56.1%)	Ontario (20.3%)	Low (91.8%)	0.023	0 - 0.0447
MCLUST C1	36,926 (15.8%)	45	0.16	CMA (46.9%)	Ontario (15.9%)	Low (95.7%)	0.012	0 - 0.0159
PAM k-means C1	110,802 (47.3%)	52	0.14	CMA (56.2%)	Ontario (20.4%)	Low (91.7%)	0.023	0 - 0.0450
Quintiles C2	46,761 (20.0%)	55	0.13	CMA (61.0%)	Ontario (22.4%)	Low (90.1%)	0.028	0.0203 - 0.0372
Min/Max C2	31,335 (13.4%)	52	0.14	CMA (58.4%)	Ontario (21.0%)	Low (91.7%)	0.024	0.0183 - 0.0294
HDBSCAN C2	188,119 (80.4%)	66	0.11	CMA (73.5%)	Ontario (27.5%)	Low (79.1%)	0.061	0.0200 - 1
MixAll C2	123,870 (52.9%)	70	0.11	CMA (79.3%)	Ontario (29.6%)	Low (74.0%)	0.087	0.0447 - 1
MCLUST C2	44,867 (19.2%)	52	0.14	CMA (57.4%)	Ontario (20.7%)	Low (91.9%)	0.024	0.0159 - 0.0324
PAM k-means C2	123,266 (52.7%)	70	0.11	CMA (79.3%)	Ontario (29.6%)	Low (73.9%)	0.088	0.0450 - 1
Quintiles C3	46,859 (20.0%)	65	0.11	CMA (70.1%)	Ontario (28.0%)	Low (83.7%)	0.048	0.0372 - 0.0614
Min/Max C3	159,738 (68.2%)	68	0.11	CMA (76.0%)	Ontario (28.6%)	Low (76.9%)	0.071	0.0294 - 1
MCLUST C3	31,713 (13.5%)	62	0.11	CMA (66.4%)	Ontario (25.9%)	Low (86.1%)	0.039	0.0324 - 0.0463
Quintiles C4	46,808 (20.0%)	71	0.11	CMA (77.3%)	Ontario (30.3%)	Low (77.3%)	0.079	0.0614 - 0.1050
MCLUST C4	28,343 (12.1%)	67	0.11	CMA (72.0%)	Ontario (28.9%)	Low (82.3%)	0.054	0.0463 - 0.0624
Quintiles C5	46,858 (20.0%)	72	0.11	CMA (86.1%)	Ontario (29.4%)	Low (65.1%)	0.149	0.1050 - 1
MCLUST C5	25,512 (10.9%)	71	0.11	CMA (76.6%)	Ontario (30.8%)	Low (78.6%)	0.072	0.0624 - 0.0825
MCLUST C6	1,974 (0.8%)	71	0.10	CMA (79.2%)	Ontario (31.0%)	Low (74.7%)	0.084	0.0825 - 0.0845
MCLUST C7	28,802 (12.3%)	72	0.11	CMA (79.3%)	Ontario (29.6%)	Low (74.2%)	0.100	0.0845 - 0.1219
MCLUST C8	35,931 (15.4%)	72	0.11	CMA (87.8%)	Ontario (29.3%)	Low (62.9%)	0.168	0.1219 - 1

Table 19: Summary statistics for each cluster found by all approaches for the transit amenity. DB Population, IoR and proximity value show the median, while CMA Type, Province and Amenity Dense show the mode.

	# of DBs	DB Population	Median IoR	CMA Type	Province	Amenity Dense	Transit	Range
Entire Population	181,305 (100.0%)	73	0.10	CMA (89.8%)	Ontario (31.9%)	Low (76.9%)	0.009	0 - 1
Quintiles C1	35,411 (19.5%)	58	0.11	CMA (73.7%)	Ontario (31.6%)	Low (94.3%)	0.001	0 - 0.0026
Min/Max C1	1,014 (0.6%)	37	0.15	CMA (48.3%)	Ontario (29.7%)	Low (95.6%)	0.000	0 - 0.0000
HDBSCAN C1	158,674 (87.5%)	71	0.10	CMA (88.4%)	Ontario (31.4%)	Low (83.2%)	0.008	0 - 0.0388
MixAll C1	71,659 (39.5%)	67	0.11	CMA (80.2%)	Ontario (32.5%)	Low (93.0%)	0.003	0 - 0.0065
MCLUST C1	17,469 (9.6%)	47	0.13	CMA (66.9%)	Ontario (30.6%)	Low (94.8%)	0.000	0 - 0.0010
PAM k-means C1	79,536 (43.9%)	68	0.11	CMA (81.2%)	Ontario (32.3%)	Low (92.7%)	0.003	0 - 0.0076
Quintiles C2	36,983 (20.4%)	75	0.10	CMA (86.6%)	Ontario (33.3%)	Low (91.7%)	0.004	0.0026 - 0.0067
Min/Max C2	2,474 (1.4%)	38	0.13	CMA (56.8%)	Ontario (26.6%)	Low (93.9%)	0.000	0.0000 - 1e-04
HDBSCAN C2	22,631 (12.5%)	90	0.06	CMA (99.8%)	Ontario (35.8%)	Med (49.3%)	0.056	0.0388 - 1
MixAll C2	109,646 (60.5%)	76	0.09	CMA (96.1%)	Ontario (31.6%)	Low (66.4%)	0.018	0.0065 - 1
MCLUST C2	84,840 (46.8%)	73	0.10	CMA (87.0%)	Ontario (32.1%)	Low (90.5%)	0.005	0.0010 - 0.0116
PAM k-means C2	101,769 (56.1%)	76	0.09	CMA (96.5%)	Ontario (31.7%)	Low (64.6%)	0.020	0.0076 - 1
Quintiles C3	36,255 (20.0%)	74	0.11	CMA (92.0%)	Ontario (30.5%)	Low (85.8%)	0.009	0.0067 - 0.0131
Min/Max C3	2,082 (1.1%)	36	0.13	CMA (59.5%)	Ontario (27.2%)	Low (92.5%)	0.000	1e-04 - 3e-04
MCLUST C3	78,996 (43.6%)	78	0.07	CMA (97.8%)	Ontario (32.0%)	Low (58.5%)	0.025	0.0116 - 1
Quintiles C4	36,300 (20.0%)	73	0.10	CMA (96.8%)	Ontario (30.2%)	Low (72.3%)	0.018	0.0131 - 0.0272
Min/Max C4	1,923 (1.1%)	43	0.13	CMA (66.8%)	Ontario (30.8%)	Low (95.3%)	0.000	3e-04 - 4e-04
Quintiles C5	36,356 (20.1%)	85	0.06	CMA (99.4%)	Ontario (34.1%)	Med (46.7%)	0.044	0.0272 - 1
Min/Max C5	173,812 (95.9%)	74	0.10	CMA (91.1%)	Ontario (32.1%)	Low (76.2%)	0.010	4e-04 - 1

Table 20: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the employment amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.35	0.00000	3545	0.95
MixAll	0.62	0.00492	35404	0.60
HDBSCAN	0.69	0.00338	3656	0.40
PAM k-means	0.63	0.00498	36372	0.59
MCLUST	0.59	0.00126	98539	0.56
Min/Max	0.60	0.00014	256	1.01

Table 21: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the pharmacy amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.43	0.00000	1409	1.01
MixAll	0.59	0.00105	12007	0.66
HDBSCAN	0.44	0.00000	4571	0.80
PAM k-means	0.59	0.00084	11854	0.67
MCLUST	0.48	0.00020	4928	25.17
Min/Max	0.38	0.00010	639	0.80

Table 22: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the child care amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.44	0.00000	3696	0.79
MixAll	0.58	0.00067	15949	0.67
HDBSCAN	0.44	0.00000	3854	1.77
PAM k-means	0.57	0.00072	15190	0.69
MCLUST	0.60	0.00032	9951	0.64
Min/Max	0.40	0.00011	543	0.76

Table 23: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the health care amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.39	0.00000	1724	1.13
MixAll	0.58	0.00707	18546	0.68
HDBSCAN	0.73	0.00291	2260	0.35
PAM k-means	0.59	0.00779	18858	0.66
MCLUST	0.52	0.00234	23477	0.64
Min/Max	0.64	0.00015	103	1.01

Table 24: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the grocery amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.40	0.00000	1787	0.83
MixAll	0.55	0.00071	7461	0.76
HDBSCAN	0.49	0.00000	1953	1.16
PAM k-means	0.56	0.00070	19255	0.58
MCLUST	0.59	0.00115	1960	0.69

Min/Max	0.38	0.00013	220	0.82
---------	------	---------	-----	------

Table 25: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the secondary education amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.44	0.00000	2686	0.75
MixAll	0.58	0.00028	13920	0.63
HDBSCAN	0.41	0.00018	2710	1.37
PAM k-means	0.56	0.00178	16406	0.62
MCLUST	0.48	0.00040	7936	0.59
Min/Max	0.44	0.00052	2306	0.71

Table 26: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the library amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.43	0.00000	1386	0.84
MixAll	0.58	0.00243	7174	0.70
HDBSCAN	0.47	0.00028	1395	0.69
PAM k-means	0.57	0.00320	6138	0.73
MCLUST	0.49	0.00167	4323	0.68
Min/Max	0.88	0.01046	1546	0.16

Table 27: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the parks amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.48	0.00000	4676	0.74
MixAll	0.57	0.00052	14414	0.70
HDBSCAN	0.36	0.00000	4008	4.06
PAM k-means	0.58	0.00044	14512	0.69
MCLUST	0.46	0.00011	17244	0.96
Min/Max	0.43	0.00013	1342	0.70

Table 28: The validation metric values for each clustering approach for the transit amenity.

	Silhouette	Dunn	Calinski Harabasz	Davies Bouldin
Quintiles	0.42	0.00000	1519	1.00
MixAll	0.55	0.00355	9466	0.76
HDBSCAN	0.27	0.00000	958	2.46
PAM k-means	0.54	0.00297	8940	0.78
MCLUST	0.58	0.00249	11502	0.64
Min/Max	0.74	0.00017	26	0.87