

Glossary

Food Desert

An area, where residents have limited or no access to healthy, affordable, and unprocessed food, including fresh produce.

Food Environment

The overall community context associated with food, including places where food is distributed, purchased, prepared, or consumed—such as grocery stores, supermarkets, farmers markets, community gardens, food shelters, restaurants, schools, and worksites.

Food Insecurity

The lack of consistent access to healthy, affordable food in adequate amounts.

Food Access

The ability of a person or group of people to obtain healthy food, depending on factors such as physical access, seasonal availability, affordability, knowledge, or cultural attitudes.

Processed Food

Food that is heavily refined, nutrient poor, and calorie-dense.