



Food System Asset Map: Terms and Definitions

Healthy Food Retailer⁽¹⁾ All-encompassing term for any type of retailer that sells a variety of “healthy” foods that meet the CDC’s Dietary Guidelines for Americans. This includes foods such as fresh whole fruits and vegetables; whole grains; fat-free and low-fat dairy products; protein foods (meats, seafood, legumes, soy products, etc.); as well as foods with less sodium (salt), saturated fats, trans fats, cholesterol, added sugars, and refined grains. Healthier beverages may include fat-free or low-fat milk and milk-products; fortified soy beverages and other lactose-free products; 100% juice; and water.

Healthy food retailers are expected to offer several healthy food items the following requirements:

- Stock several types of fresh fruits and/or vegetables (not including potatoes and onions)
- Stock multiple types of frozen, dried, and/or canned fruits and vegetables year-round (canned fruits in water or fruit juice; canned vegetables with no or low sodium)
- Stock multiple low-fat proteins
- Stock multiple 100% fruit and/or vegetable juices
- Stock multiple whole grain items
- Stock multiple low-fat dairy products

Food Retail Categories

Charitable Food Services Indicates the location of food banks, food pantries, and free meal services.

Convenience Store⁽²⁾ A small food retailer that also advertises and sells nonfood items such as tobacco products and alcoholic beverages.

Dollar Store⁽³⁾ A retailer that sells a variety of merchandise, household products, and food products at a price lower than the typical market value. It is also known as a small box discount store.

Farmers’ Market⁽⁴⁾ A location where farmers assemble to sell produce and other agricultural products.

Food Processor/Distributor An organization or company that processes and/or distributes food to retailers.

Food Producer- Public and private sites, such as businesses and community and school gardens, that grow food.

Grocery Store⁽⁵⁾ A food retailer that has a limited amount of food departments. These stores are typically independently owned and not a part of a large chain.

Meat/Seafood Market A market or store that specifically focuses on the sale of meat or seafood products.

Produce Market A market or store that specifically focuses on the sale of produce.

Supermarket⁽⁶⁾ A large grocery store with all food departments, such as: produce, meats, seafood, canned goods and packaged goods. These stores typically have three or more registers.

Attribute Terms and Definitions

International Food Retailer Food stores that offer internationally imported foods.

References

(1) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2014). *Healthier Food Retail: Beginning the Assessment Process in Your State or Community*. www.cdc.gov/obesity/downloads/hfrassessment.pdf

(2) Johns Hopkins Center for A Livable Future and City of Baltimore. (2018). *Baltimore City's Food Environment: 2018 Report*. <https://clf.jhsph.edu/sites/default/files/2019-01/baltimore-city-food-environment-2018-report.pdf>

(3) City of New Orleans. (2018). *Small Box Retail Diversity Study City of New Orleans*. www.nola.gov/getattachment/City-Planning/Major-Studies-and-Projects/Small-Box-Retail-Diversity-Study/Small-Box-Retail-Diversity-Final-Report.pdf

(4) State of Michigan. (2021). *Licensing at Farmers Markets*. www.michigan.gov/mdard/0,4610,7-125-1568_2387_46671-169359--,00.html

(5) Johns Hopkins Center for A Livable Future and City of Baltimore. (2018). *Baltimore City's Food Environment: 2018 Report*. <https://clf.jhsph.edu/sites/default/files/2019-01/baltimore-city-food-environment-2018-report.pdf>

(6) U.S. Department of Agriculture. (2021). *Documentation Definitions and Data Sources*. www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-environment-atlas/documentation/; and Johns Hopkins Center for A Livable Future and City of Baltimore. (2018). *Baltimore City's Food Environment: 2018 Report*. <https://clf.jhsph.edu/sites/default/files/2019-01/baltimore-city-food-environment-2018-report.pdf>