

The Detroit **Food System Report** 2009-2010



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For the Detroit Food Policy Council

May 15, 2011

The Detroit Food Policy Council

Membership, April 2011

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**We thank the following past members
for their service on the Council:**

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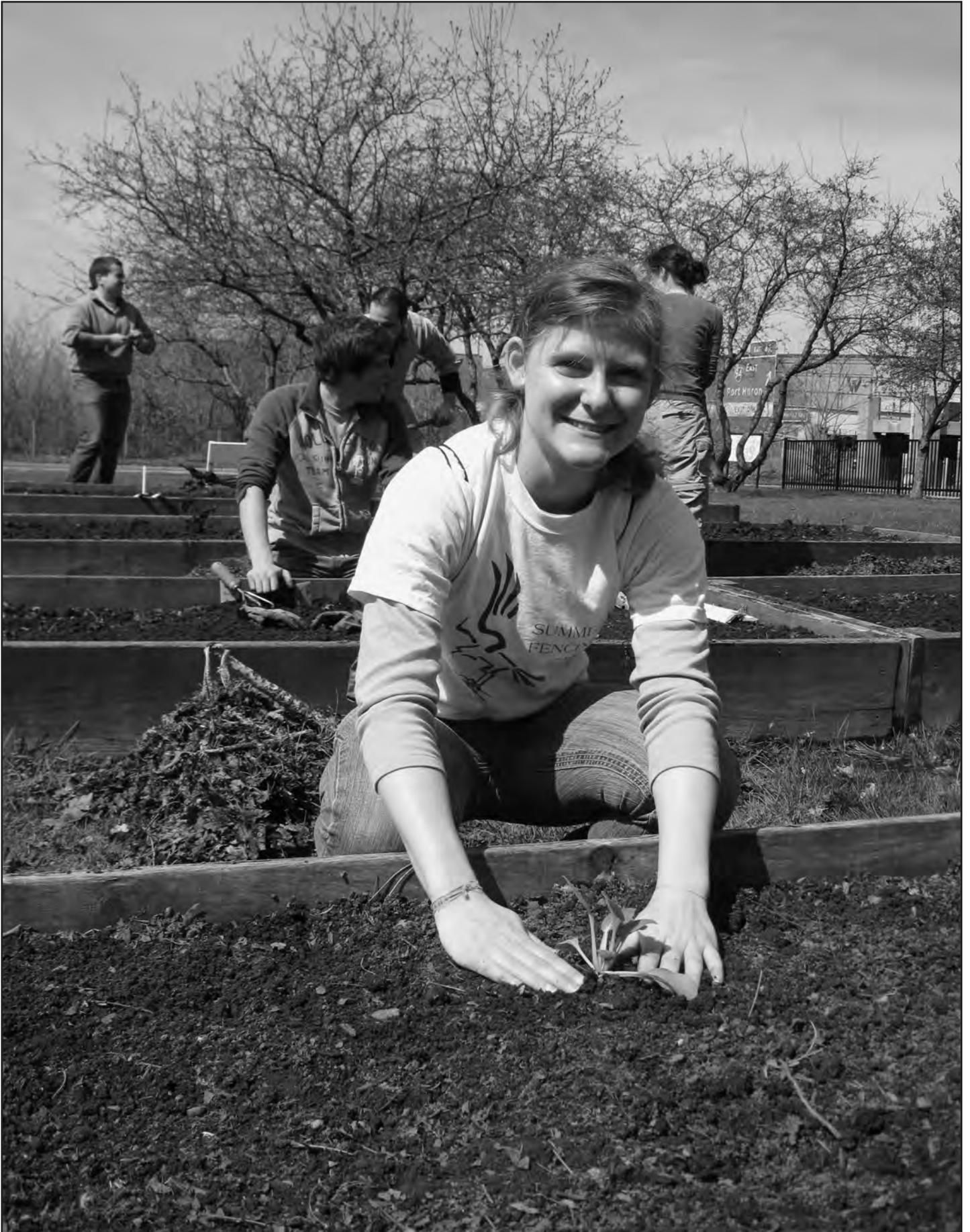


Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

Planting at SEED Wayne's St. Andrew's Garden, Wayne State University.



Preface



Photo: Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market

Nicki Zahm and Will Gardner, formerly of Greening of Detroit.

THIS REPORT IS THE FIRST OF AN ANNUAL SERIES TO BE RELEASED BY THE DETROIT FOOD POLICY COUNCIL (DFPC), WHICH FIRST CONVENED IN 2009.¹ IT FULFILLS A KEY GOAL OF THE DFPC, WHICH IS TO: produce and disseminate an annual City of Detroit Food System Report that assesses the state of the city's food system, including activities in production, distribution, consumption, waste generation and composting, nutrition and food assistance program participation, and innovative food system programs.

The other goals and a summary of events that resulted in the formation of the Detroit Food Policy Council are described in Section 1. Sections 2, 3 and 4, respectively, present substantive information



We hope that this report will inform future initiatives and help in the coordination of existing ones...

¹www.detroitfoodpolicycouncil.net



Photo: Earthworks Urban Farm



...leaders of neighborhoods and food organizations mobilized more residents to grow their own food and sell to their neighbors, developed initiatives to increase access to healthy food in neighborhoods, and fostered a lively debate on needed changes in the city's food system.

primarily by a Wayne State University urban planning faculty member (Kami Pothukuchi) over ten months, with assistance from a student (Annette Stephens). We anticipate that future DFPC reports will have a budget to enable research and analysis on emerging questions and the compilation of the report itself. The author is grateful to council members, community-based experts, and the DFPC coordinator, all who contributed data and analysis, and/or chased down sources of data, for this report.

It is no secret that these are hard times for Detroit's residents. Even prior to the economic downturn that hit the country hard in 2008, Detroiters suffered from a higher rate of unemployment than the region or the state. In 2009, the official unemployment rate jumped to 28 percent. The Federal Stimulus helped the city somewhat through jobs in shovel-ready projects and food assistance, among other things, but many schools were closed or consolidated, and talk of rationalizing neighborhoods to provide services more efficiently was everywhere, engendering both fears about losing even more ground as well as hope for meaningful reorganization of resources. During the same time, leaders of neighborhoods and food organizations mobilized more residents to grow their own food and sell to their neighbors, developed other initiatives to increase access to healthy food in neighborhoods, and fostered a lively debate on needed changes in the city's food system.

The Detroit Food Policy Council is one outcome of such debates. We hope that this report will inform future initiatives and help in the coordination of existing ones, assess initiatives for outcomes and impacts identified by DFPC goals, and enhance synergies among those in community food security and broader community empowerment and development.

about the community, Detroit's food system, and innovative activities to repair gaps in the food system and build a more sustainable and just alternative.

Although the most recent data available are provided, the baseline year for the report is 2009. Also, wherever possible and relevant, data are offered in a comparative light, relative to a few years ago, or to the region and the state, or to the rest of the sector of which they are a part. Because this is the first such effort of the DFPC, the report relied entirely on pre-existing sources of data and analysis, and in some cases derived estimates for Detroit based on national averages; no primary research was undertaken for this report. We expect that future reports will incorporate more recent data unavailable to this one—such as from the 2010 Census—and findings from primary research to answer questions specific to Detroit and for that time.

We also expect that future reports will contain a more detailed listing and systematic assessments of both the conventional and “alternative” food systems in Detroit. For example, many Detroit organizations collect data on their programs for internal purposes, and data in categories of interest to the general public may not be available from every initiative. Hopefully, the need for more consistent data for future annual reports will contribute to the development of uniform data gathering and related tools in the community. The DFPC should take the lead in designing such tools.

The 2010 report's compilation of data and analysis and writing were done entirely on volunteer time,





Executive Summary



Photo: Earthworks Urban Farm

Earthworks Urban Farm.



The mission of the Detroit Food Policy Council is to nurture the development and maintenance of a sustainable, localized food system and a food-secure City of Detroit in which all of its residents are hunger-free, healthy and benefit economically from the food system that impacts their lives.

The Detroit Food Policy Council— A Background

The Detroit Food Policy Council came into being in November 2009 following a City Council resolution in 2008 supporting its creation and another resolution earlier that year to adopt a City Food Policy. These landmark events are the product of policy organizing and community consultation by the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network.



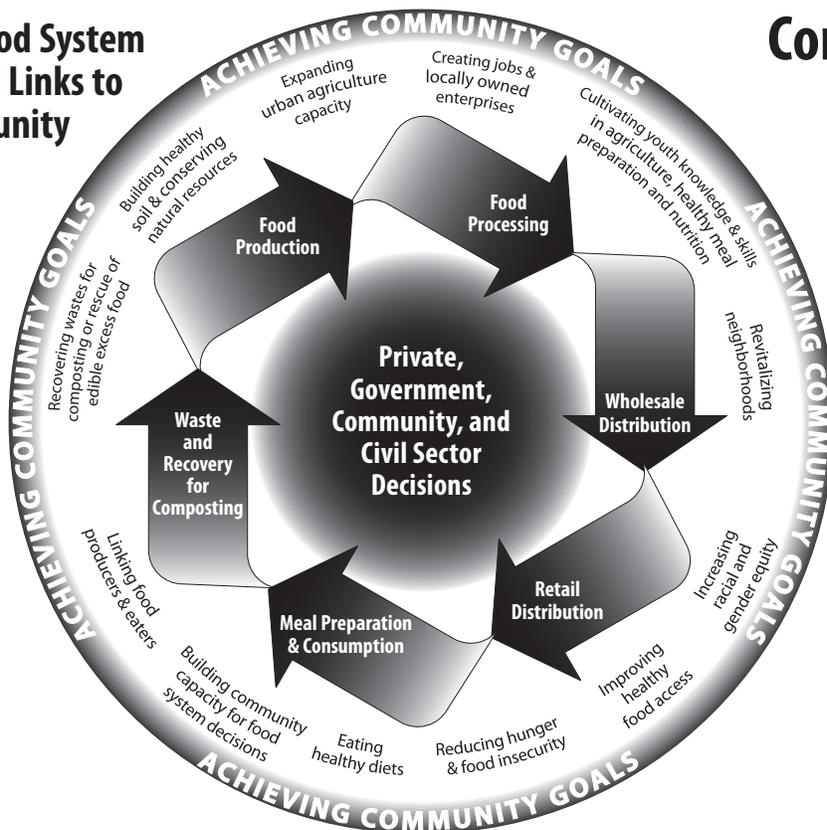
The mission of the Detroit Food Policy Council is to nurture the development and maintenance of a sustainable, localized food system and a food-secure City of Detroit in which all of its residents are hunger-free, healthy, and benefit economically from the food system that impacts their lives.

The DFPC's Goals are to:

- 1) Advocate for urban agriculture and composting being included as part of the strategic development of the City of Detroit;
- 2) Work with various City departments to streamline the processes and approvals required to expand and improve urban agriculture in the City of Detroit including acquisition of land and access to water;
- 3) Review the City of Detroit Food Security Policy and develop an implementation and monitoring plan that identifies priorities, timelines, benchmarks, and human, financial and material resources;
- 4) Produce and disseminate an annual City of Detroit Food System Report that assesses the state of the city's food system, including activities in production, distribution, consumption, waste generation and composting, nutrition and food assistance program participation, and innovative food system programs;
- 5) Recommend new food-related policy as the need arises;
- 6) Initiate and coordinate programs that address the food-related needs of Detroiters;
- 7) Convene an annual "Powering Up the Local Food System" conference.

The DFPC has 21 members selected for their expertise on a variety of community and food system sectors. Four work groups are organized to advance DFPC goals; they address issues related to healthy food access, schools and institutions, urban agriculture, and community food justice. Since its first convening, the DFPC has taken steps to become incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, developed procedures for financial and other operations, set up an office, hired a coordinator, and educated itself on numerous local, state, and federal policy issues. DFPC members also contributed about 40 articles and opinion pieces to *The Michigan Citizen*, a community newspaper.

The Food System and Its Links to Community Goals



Community Food Security

The Detroit Food Security Policy defines community food security as a “condition which exists when all of the members of a community have access, in close proximity, to adequate amounts of nutritious, culturally appropriate food at all times, from sources that are environmentally sound and just.”

Community food security requires a focus on the linkages between the food sector and the community in a systemic way, with a long-term view of correcting the sources of hunger and food insecurity; supporting the development of closer links between producers and eaters; building greater food system capacity and ownership among all community members; and encouraging practices across the food system that help sustain the natural resource base upon which agriculture, indeed all life, depends.

Detroit Community and Food System Indicators

Detroit neighborhoods lost people and wealth between 2000 and 2010

According to the 2010 US Census, Detroit's population is 713,777, showing a loss of a quarter of its 2000 population. As this report goes to press, detailed Census data are unavailable. The American Community Survey (ACS) estimated the city's 2009 population to be 910,848, showing a decline of only 4 percent since 2000. Thus, Detroit's population figures will continue to be a matter of debate and contention for some time to come.

According to the 2009 ACS, the number of households with children under age 18 shrank by almost 14 percent, while single-person households grew by a similar rate, thanks in large part to the many young, single people who are flocking into the city. School enrollment dropped nearly 11 percent overall between 2000 and 2009; at the same time, enrollment in colleges or graduate school grew by 47 percent.



The Penrose Children's Art House Garden in Northwest Detroit.

Despite a 10 percent loss of Black population between 2000 and 2009, Detroit remains a majority African-American city, and experiences poverty and other indicators of community distress at rates much higher than national averages. Consider the following for 2009:

- The city's official unemployment rate was 28 percent, double that in 2000, and three times the national average.
- Median household income of \$26,000 was two-thirds that in 2000, after adjusting for inflation.
- 36 percent of individuals lived below the poverty line, a 40 percent decadal increase.
- 31 percent of families with children had incomes below the poverty level—a rate of increase since 2000 of nearly 50 percent.
- More than four out of ten single-parent families had incomes below the poverty level.



...this report estimates that food insecurity in Detroit is more than double the national rate.

Detroiters face high rates of food insecurity and obesity

In 2009, nationally, 14.7 percent of households (or 17.4 million) were food insecure, meaning that at some time during the year they had difficulty providing enough food for all members due to insufficient resources. Because food insecurity is higher in urban areas, in communities of color, and among those who live in poverty, this report estimates that food insecurity in Detroit is more than double the national rate.

According to a study by the US Conference of Mayors, requests for food assistance in Detroit went up 30 percent in 2009 relative to the previous year. About 75 percent of people requesting assistance were also part of a family.

Nationally, food insecurity goes hand in hand with obesity as healthy foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables and whole grain products tend to be more expensive than highly processed foods containing added fats, sugar, and salt. Outlets selling fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods at affordable rates are also scarce in urban, predominantly African-American neighborhoods where the density of fast food outlets tends to be higher. In such neighborhoods, obesity rates are higher.



Only one Black-owned grocery supermarket exists in Detroit, a city in which four out of five residents are African-American.

Fewer than a quarter of residents of Wayne County—the county that includes Detroit—consume fruits and vegetables at recommended rates. Nearly three out of 10 residents report not having participated in any physical activities in the last month. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that 36 percent of Michigan residents are considered overweight and another 30 percent obese. Obesity rates are higher in communities of color such as Detroit: 37 percent for African Americans and 31 percent for Hispanics relative to 26 percent for whites. Rising obesity among youth is especially troubling: one in five high school students (21 percent) in Detroit is obese; the statewide rate is 12 percent.

Food expenditures in metro Detroit are higher than in other cities

At 13 percent, metro Detroit had the third highest average annual household expenditures for food of 18 metropolitan areas studied in 2008-09, below only Boston and Los Angeles. Perhaps unsurprisingly, metro

Detroiters pay the most for transportation when compared with residents of the other cities—19.2 percent of their household income after taxes—compared to 16.3 percent for the country as a whole.

Two out of five dollars spent by households on food in metro Detroit (\$6,412 average annual total) were spent on food purchased to be eaten away from home, that is, at a restaurant or fast food outlet. Only 17 percent of the budget allocated for food at home was spent on fruits and vegetables, while another 14 percent was spent on cereals and bakery products.

Detroit is underserved by about \$200 million annually for retail grocery

Many Detroit neighborhoods are underserved by full-service grocery supermarkets that offer a range of healthy and affordable food choices. Although approximately 80 full-service stores were shown to exist in the city by a study sponsored by the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC), still, an estimated \$200 million in unmet demand exists in the city. Existing grocers in Detroit provide an average of only 1.59 square feet of grocery retail space per capita, compared to an industry standard of 3.0 square feet per capita.

Only one Black-owned grocery supermarket exists in Detroit, a city in which four out of five residents are African-American.

Source: Social Compact, 2010; Block data from 2000 US Census

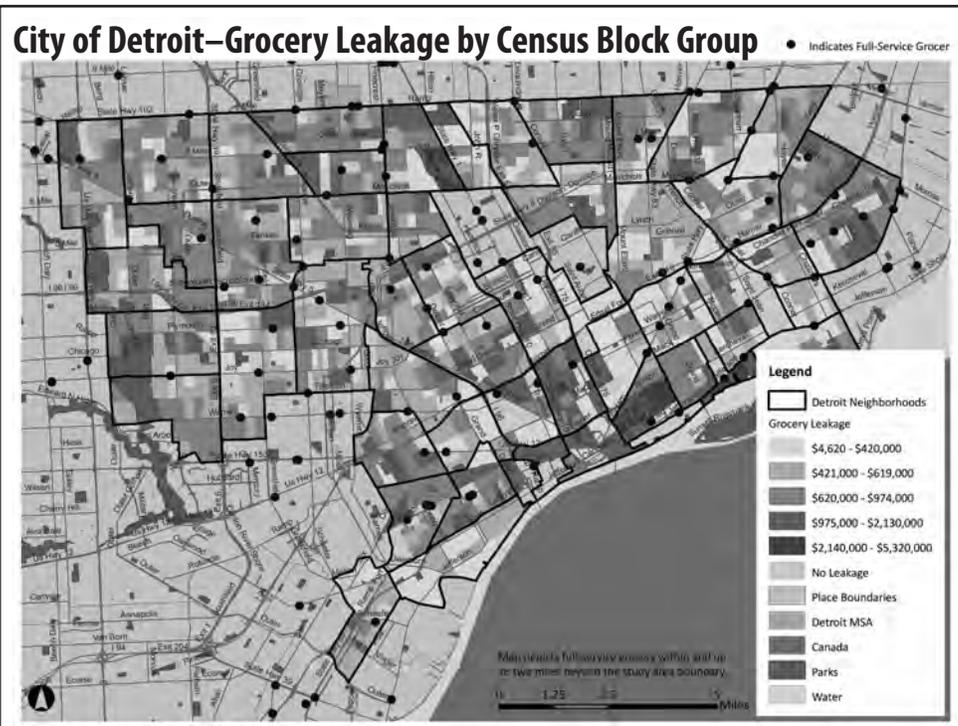


Photo: Kami Pohtukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University



Despite recent declines, food remains an important part of the local economy

Food manufacturing, wholesale and retail activities in Detroit have generally declined between 1997 and 2007. Despite this decline, they are important to their respective sectors in Detroit. For example, food wholesale trade accounts for more than 35 percent of all wholesale sales and more than a quarter of wholesale-related jobs in Detroit. Food retail accounts for nearly 30 percent of all retail sales and nearly 35 percent of all employment in the sector. These statistics point to the enduring value of the food sector to the local economy.

Significant amounts of food system wastes in Detroit can be rescued or composted

Based on nationally derived averages, this report estimates that between 80,000 and 100,000 tons of food scraps were created in Detroit in 2010. Additionally, a similar amount of yard waste was generated in the city. We also estimate that more than 42,000 tons of wastes are created annually by fast food and other eating places in Detroit, with more than half consisting of food that could be rescued.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), nearly nine percent of the waste that each person generates each day could be recovered for composting. This works out to 140 pounds per person per year, and a total of more than 50,000 tons for the City of Detroit. Diverting this waste from the incinerator could save the city \$1.25 million annually.

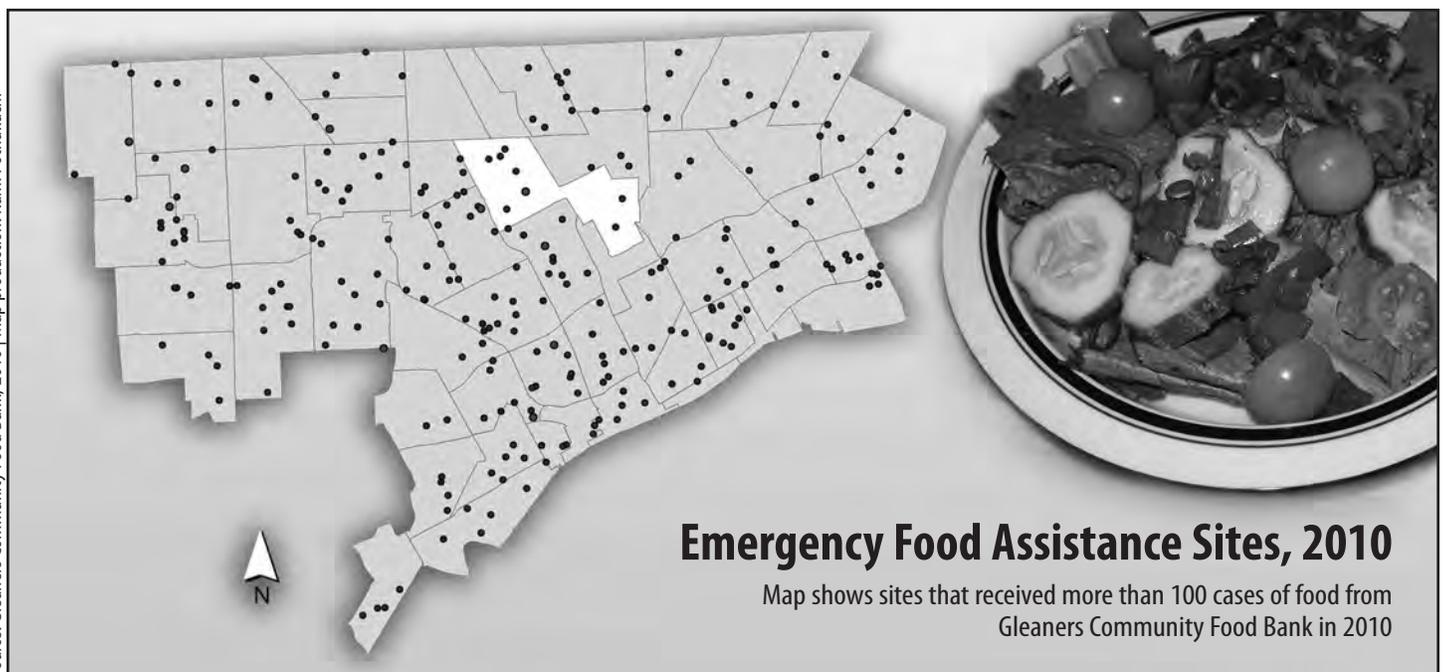
Government nutrition programs are vital to Detroit's food security; more eligible non-participants, however, need to gain benefits

SNAP participation rose sharply over the last few years

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamp) benefits which arrive electronically to participants through the Bridge Card in Michigan, are important to many households' ability to put food on the table. More than three out of 10 households in Wayne County and a slightly higher proportion of Detroit households depend on SNAP. In 2010 Wayne County's monthly SNAP rolls had more than half a million participants whose benefits were approximately \$69 million or about \$138 per participant. In



According to the EPA, nearly nine percent of the waste that each person generates each day could be recovered for composting... Diverting this waste from the incinerator could save the city \$1.25 million annually.



Emergency Food Assistance Sites, 2010

Map shows sites that received more than 100 cases of food from Gleaners Community Food Bank in 2010

Source: Gleaners Community Food Bank, 2010 | Map production: Kami Pothukuchi



Children learn to cook in the Growing Healthy Kids program at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

2010, there were 67 percent more SNAP participants in Wayne County than in 2004.

SNAP allocations increased in 2009 due to the Federal Stimulus; some concerns remain

Approximately 88 percent of Wayne County residents eligible to participate in SNAP actually did so in 2009. This difference from full participation represented lost benefits of about \$10 million in 2009, a loss that the community can ill afford given the ongoing recession. Monthly benefit levels are higher than they were in 2008 thanks to additional funding provided by the Stimulus Bill. Nonetheless, they are also typically inadequate to consistently maintain healthy diets with sufficient quantities of fresh fruits and vegetables. Plus, the increment from the Stimulus is slated to end in 2013, which is sure to create hardships for families given rising food and gas prices and the ongoing economic malaise.

Nine out of ten meals served by the Detroit Public Schools are free and reduced-price

School nutrition programs are critical to children's ability to learn, and free and reduced-price school meals are therefore an important tool in a community's food security toolbox. More than three out of four of the 86,000 students in Detroit Public Schools (DPS) in 2009-10 were on the rolls to receive free or reduced-price school lunches and breakfasts. In October 2009 on an average day, 47,686 total lunches and 42,622 total breakfasts were served.

Over the past few years, the DPS Office of Food Services has made many improvements in the nutritional quality of school meals, established school gardens and farm-to-school programs, and integrated food and agriculture issues in the curriculum.

Participation rates in school meals and other child nutrition programs, however, need to improve

Despite the high rates of enrollment in free and reduced-price meals in DPS, only one out of two enrollees asks for and gets a free or reduced-price lunch on any given day, and only 42 percent of enrollees do the same for breakfast. High school students participate at much lower levels than other students. More needs to be done so that children who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals choose to eat such a meal at school, and are comfortable asking for the meal while being with their friends.

Participation rates are dismally low for other child nutrition programs such as the Summer Food Service Program. For example, only five percent of Detroit children eligible to receive these benefits actually participate due to lack of awareness or difficulties with transportation to sites.

According to the City of Detroit's Department of Health and Wellness Promotion (DHWP), approximately 35,000 pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, infants, and children below the age of five participated monthly in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010. We do not know the participation rates of WIC-eligible individuals.

More people are requesting emergency food assistance

Food assistance programs reported a 30 percent increase in requests for assistance in 2009 over the previous year. Emergency food assistance is yet another food security mainstay in our community; a significant portion of the food distributed is paid for by taxpayer dollars. The Gleaners Community Food Bank is the principal distributor to food assistance programs offered by neighborhood and social service organizations. In 2010 Gleaners distributed nearly 18 million pounds of groceries to 300 outlets in Detroit, including food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, halfway houses, and school and community sites hosting children.



Children from the Indian Village Child Care Center harvest basil and learn about gardening in the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's organic garden. Produce from the garden goes to low-income residents and is used in the soup kitchen's programs.

The Alternative Food System: Innovative Community Food Programs

Urban agriculture activities have grown over the last few years

Several citywide urban agriculture programs in Detroit have helped establish and support hundreds of backyard, community, school, and market gardens; engage and train thousands of adults and youth in related activities; and conduct related outreach and networking. These gardens collectively produced several hundred tons of food last year. Programs that support urban agriculture by providing resources, training, organizing, and demonstration sites in the city include the Garden Resource Program Collaborative, Earthworks Urban Farm, D-Town Farm, and Urban Farming, Inc.

For example, in 2010 the Garden Resource Program Collaborative engaged more than 5,000 adults and 10,000 youth in more than 1,200 vegetable gardens, including 300 community gardens, 60 school gardens, 800 family gardens, and nearly 40 market gardens. They collectively produced more than 160 tons of food. Earthworks Urban Farm, Detroit's first and, as yet, only certified organic farm consisting of more than two acres over seven sites, involved more than 6,000 volunteers to produce 7,000 pounds of food, produced transplants for gardeners in the Garden Resource Program Collaborative, and offered numerous training workshops—from basic skills to entrepreneurial agriculture—to hundreds of youth and adults across the city. They also composted more than 300,000 pounds of food system wastes, thereby diverting wastes from landfills or the incinerator and enriching soils for agriculture. D-Town Farm is putting into place plans to expand from two acres of production at Rouge Park to seven acres.



Detroit has enough publicly owned vacant land to grow a significant portion of the fresh produce needed by the city.



Young Detroiters sell heirloom tomatoes at the East Warren Avenue Farmers' Market, where everything on sale is locally grown. They grow their produce on vacant city lots.



Volunteers grow vegetables that are distributed to food assistance sites by Gleaners Community Food Bank.

Significant potential exists to expand urban agriculture to meet Detroit's needs

Detroit has enough publicly owned vacant land to grow a significant portion of the fresh produce needed by the city. A study by Kathryn Colasanti of Michigan State University showed over 4,800 acres of vacant, publicly owned parcels, the majority of which were residential and owned by the City.² The same study arrived at the acreage that would be needed to meet current consumption levels of fruits and vegetables that could be grown locally. At a minimum, using only field production and moderately intensive methods, Detroit growers could produce enough fruits and vegetables on 894 acres to supply 31 percent of vegetables and 17 percent of fruits consumed by the city. At the high end, nearly 76 percent of vegetables and 42 percent of fruits consumed in the city could be supplied by 2,086 acres using intensive production methods that also include season extension and storage.

Many initiatives increase retail access to fresh foods within neighborhoods

Many initiatives in Detroit help bring affordable, fresh and healthy food into neighborhoods. Selected examples include the following:

- Eight neighborhood farmers' markets brought fresh, local and seasonal foods to Detroit residents and workers in 2010; additionally, two mobile markets served spe-

cific neighborhoods. These markets also created significant revenues for participating farmers and other local food vendors.

- Eastern Market sponsored farm stands in 2010 at 40 locations in metro Detroit to increase access to fresh, affordable and local produce at various neighborhood and employment locations.
- The Green Grocer Project provides technical assistance, financing, and fast-track permitting assistance to existing Detroit grocery stores to improve operations and increase access to fresh and healthy foods, or new stores that open in underserved neighborhoods. By December 2010, \$90,000 in grants were awarded to three stores.
- Detroit Fresh—SEED Wayne's (Sustainable Food System Education and Engagement in Detroit and Wayne State University) healthy corner store project—had 18 corner stores in 2010 that carried (or carried more) fresh produce following store-based assistance, linkages with produce distributors and neighborhood outreach.

² Colasanti, K., & Hamm, M. W. (2010). "The Local Food Supply Capacity of Detroit, MI." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems and Community Development*, 1(2), 1-18.

- The Fresh Food Share program, led by Gleaners Community Food Bank, dropped off 998 boxes containing 28,111 pounds of fruits, vegetables, and other selected healthy foods at sites around the city for pick up by participants. Subsidized boxes cost \$10 and \$17 for small and large boxes, respectively, non-subsidized ones were \$14 and \$24 for the small and large boxes respectively.

Double Up Food Bucks support fresh food purchases and local farmers

The Double Up Food Bucks Program (DUF�), offered by the Fair Food Network, matches Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP or food stamp) spending at farmers' markets in Detroit and other select locations, dollar for dollar (up to \$20 per card per day). Michigan farmers benefit as well from the additional spending on fruits and vegetables. In 2010, for all markets, \$111,585 of SNAP spending was matched by \$91,866 in DUF� tokens for fresh fruits and vegetables.



Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

Wayne State Wednesday Farmers' Market.

Food system entrepreneurial and workforce development initiatives hold promise

Several initiatives have recently started to build entrepreneurship and job skills among youth and adults in agriculture, culinary arts, and food service. Consider these examples:

- COLORS Hospitality Opportunities for Workers Institute by Restaurant Opportunities Center of Michigan (ROC-Michigan) seeks to help restaurants be profitable while promoting opportunities for workers to advance in the restaurant industry. The COLORS Restaurant, a worker-owned restaurant, will open in Summer 2011.
- 10-13 youth participate each year in D-Town Farm's summer employment program in which youth ages 15-23 plant, irrigate, weed, harvest, and sell at Wayne State University Farmers' Market.
- Earthworks Agriculture Training (EAT) offered by Earthworks Urban Farm trains interns in agricultural entrepreneurship, with eight graduates in 2010.

Food justice conversations address race in the food system

Undoing Racism in the Food System is an informal group of people whose goal is to help create food justice and food security in Detroit as part of a larger struggle for social justice. More than 200 people have participated to date in small and large discussion groups to analyze racism in Detroit's food system and identify approaches to dismantling it, including a two-day anti-racism training held in March 2010.

Detroit-based food organizations and networks have capacity and need support

Organizations collaborate in varying combinations to achieve the above gains. Detroit food groups have developed both individual organizational capacity as well as network capacity to collaboratively develop and implement needed initiatives to deliver real benefits to neighborhoods. These collaborations should be supported preferentially by foundations, government programs, and other donors to enable sustainable growth. We urge donors to seek and support existing, locally organized initiatives before attempting to bring in leaders from outside Detroit to develop initiatives from scratch. Support is needed, in particular, to systematically assess existing initiatives so as to develop a set of baseline measures of the system from which future growth can be traced. Lessons also need to be drawn from their successes and challenges to inform future efforts.



High school students shovel compost in a community garden. They are volunteers working in the Summer in the City program, which puts students to work on community improvement projects.

Federal, state and local policies affect Detroit's food system

Recent laws such as the Farm Bill (Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008), the Stimulus Bill (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009), and the Child Nutrition Reauthorization (Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010) collectively helped realize more funding for nutrition and food security needs; increased funding for fruit and vegetable production; made nutrition program participation easier; instituted nutritional improvements in the meals offered at school and other settings; and enabled the sourcing of school cafeterias from local farms. These changes also benefited local food businesses and farms.

However, they also contained elements that are worrisome to proponents of sustainable agriculture and food justice. For example, money from the SNAP funding increment enabled by the Stimulus Bill was taken to fund child nutrition activities. This and other cuts to the SNAP increment mean that the SNAP benefits increase will terminate earlier, in November 2013, raising concerns about the ability of participants to put food on the table, even as food and energy prices are rising and the economic recession continues.

Nationwide, grassroots groups are organizing to prepare for the Farm Bill reauthorization in 2012. Given budgetary and other pressures, it is important to ensure that the gains for nutrition and food assistance programs, nutritious school foods, and farm-to-school programs are maintained; an agriculture is promoted that supports healthy diets, small farm viability, and healthy ecosystems; and more community-based initiatives to create a just food system are fostered.

At the state level, different laws facilitate or hinder actions in Detroit to improve the local food economy and promote urban agriculture. The Right to Farm Act, for example, ties the City's hands in creating urban agriculture policies that are appropriate for Detroit and balance the concerns of both growers and their neighbors. On the other hand, the Cottage Food Law allows small-scale producers to bring select products to market that are prepared and stored in their home kitchens, eliminating expensive licensing and certification requirements.

At the local level, it is critical that urban agriculture and composting, healthy food access, and other Detroit Food Policy Council goals are integrated into current policy frameworks such as Detroit Works and other decisions affecting the lives of Detroit residents.

Recommended Actions

The DFPC should:

- Track and analyze, on an ongoing basis, Detroit's food system and its impact on households and neighborhoods and important community goals such as public health, economic and ecological vitality, and social justice. Research is needed that specifically assesses, from the perspective of DFPC's mission, Detroit's needs and assets in food, and activities to build a more sustainable, just and self-reliant food economy.
- Support policies and programs that increase access to healthy and affordable foods in Detroit's neighborhoods through grocery stores; non-traditional channels such as farm stands, food cooperatives, corner stores, mobile markets, good food boxes; and increased participation in urban agriculture. Advocate additional ways to leverage existing food-related programs such as SNAP, and explore non-food-related mechanisms such as liquor and lottery licenses, to increase access to healthy foods in underserved neighborhoods.
- Track government nutrition program participation by Detroit residents, and support efforts to increase participation rates of eligible individuals and households.
- Track the effects of recently adopted or upcoming legislation for their impact on Detroit's food security and activities to build a sustainable and just food system in the city.

Photo: Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market



Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market in the Grandmont Rosedale neighborhood.

Join us in building a more sustainable and just food system in Detroit!

The Detroit Food Policy Council welcomes the participation of community members in our activities. To start, we suggest involvement of individuals in one or more of the following ways:

- Learn more about Detroit's food system and the status of community food goals related to nutrition, urban agriculture, healthy food access, and others.
- Participate in one of the four work groups of the DFPC: Healthy Food Access, Urban Agriculture, Community Food Justice, Schools and Institutions.
- Volunteer in activities sponsored by the DFPC, such as neighborhood forums or the annual "Powering Up the Local Food System" summit.
- Bring to DFPC members' attention important policies currently in place or being proposed that impact Detroit's food system.
- Participate in other actions that advance DFPC's goals.

To volunteer, obtain copies of this report, or for more information, contact the DFPC Coordinator:

Cheryl Simon, 313-833-0396 or detroitfoodpolicycouncil@gmail.com



Photo: Earthworks Urban Farm

Earthworks Urban Farm hoop house.

Section 1:

Detroit Food Policy Council A Background



Photo: Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market

IN 2006, MEMBERS OF THE DETROIT BLACK COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY NETWORK (DBCFSN) spoke before the Neighborhood and Community Services Standing Committee of the Detroit City Council, chaired by Councilmember JoAnn Watson. DBCFSN members indicated the lack of a comprehensive food security policy, and discussed with the committee the benefits of developing such a policy. DBCFSN was appointed to head a task force to develop a food security policy for the City of Detroit. Over the next 18 months, the DBCFSN's Public Policy Committee wrote and revised several drafts of a food security policy for the City of Detroit following comments from members, the public and local experts. The revised document was presented to the Neighborhood and Community Services Standing Committee of the Detroit City Council and subsequently placed on the City Council's agenda for approval. The City Council unanimously passed a resolution adopting the policy on March 25, 2008. The food security policy is available at: http://detroitfoodpolicycouncil.net/Page_2.html.

From April through October 2008 the DBCFSN Public Policy Committee conducted research on Food Policy Councils throughout North America. They examined the mission, number of members, attributes desired in



“We envision a City of Detroit with a healthy, vibrant, hunger-free populace that has easy access to fresh produce and other healthy food choices...”

members, structure, terms of office, relationship to government, and meeting schedule of food policy councils or similar bodies in Toronto, Vancouver, Portland/Multnomah, Washington D.C., Cleveland/Cuyahoga County, New Haven, New Jersey, Chicago, Grand Rapids, and the Native American Tribal Council. Following their presentation of findings to Detroit's City Council in October 7, 2008, the public body unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the creation of the Detroit Food Policy Council.

DBCFSN presented an initial draft of recommendations for establishing and operating the Detroit Food Policy Council, for public comment, at a listening session at Eastern Market on November 14, 2008. More than 75 people attended the session including Councilmember Watson and representatives of Councilmember Kwame Kenyatta and then-Mayor Kenneth Cockrel. Many of the suggestions from that session were incorporated into the final draft. On November 20, 2008, Wayne Roberts, Manager of the Toronto Food Policy Council, addressed the Neighborhood and Community Services Committee of the Detroit City Council and gave a public lecture at Wayne State University later that evening. His comments on the successes and mistakes of the Toronto Food Policy Council also informed the revision of the recommendations. The City Council unanimously passed a resolution adopting DBCFSN's recommendations related to the Detroit Food Policy Council on February 17, 2009.

A convening committee of seven individuals met over the next few months to develop and adopt the Council's bylaws, identify and invite potential members, and craft job descriptions for key personnel. The Detroit Food Policy Council first met in November 2009. Since then, the Council has met almost every month, despite an originally planned schedule of six meetings per year.

Vision, Mission, and Goals

From the recommendations adopted by Detroit's City Council, the vision and mission of Detroit Food Policy Council, respectively, are the following:

We envision a City of Detroit with a healthy, vibrant, hunger-free populace that has easy access to fresh produce and other healthy food choices; a city in which the residents are educated about healthy food choices, and understand their relationship to the food system; a city in which urban agriculture, composting and other sustainable practices contribute to its economic vitality; and a city in which all of its residents, workers, guests and visitors are treated with respect, justice and dignity by those from whom they obtain food.

The Detroit Food Policy Council is committed to nurturing the development and maintenance of a sustainable, localized food system and a food-secure City of Detroit in which all of its residents are hunger-free, healthy, and benefit economically from the food system that impacts their lives.



Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

The DFPC's Goals are to:



DFPC members are expected to draw on their experience and expertise about the community and its food system.

- 1) Advocate for urban agriculture and composting being included as part of the strategic development of the City of Detroit;
- 2) Work with various City departments to streamline the processes and approvals required to expand and improve urban agriculture in the City of Detroit, including acquisition of land and access to water;
- 3) Review the City of Detroit Food Security Policy and develop an implementation and monitoring plan that identifies priorities, timelines, benchmarks, and human, financial and material resources;
- 4) Produce and disseminate an annual City of Detroit Food System Report that assesses the state of the city's food system, including activities in production, distribution, consumption, waste generation and composting, nutrition and food assistance program participation, and innovative food system programs;
- 5) Recommend new food-related policy as the need arises;
- 6) Initiate and coordinate programs that address the food related needs of Detroiters;
- 7) Convene an annual "Powering Up the Local Food System" conference.

In the long range, the DFPC will engage in other activities including, but not limited to, producing brief research reports with policy positions on relevant and emerging issues such as land for urban agriculture; convening listening sessions to hear from community members on significant issues; assisting community-based organizations develop programs to meet needs and fill gaps in the food system; and developing collaborative, citywide programs, and raising funds for implementing them.

Structure and Functions

The DFPC has 21 members who have broad familiarity with different aspects of the Detroit community and its food system. Of these, one each are appointees of the City Council and the Mayor and, additionally, the Director of the City of Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion (or her/his designee) holds a seat. Twelve DFPC members are drawn from the following sectors:

- Sustainable Agriculture
- Retail Food Stores
- Wholesale Food Distributors
- Food Processors
- Farmers' Markets
- Environmental Justice
- Nutrition and Well-being (non-governmental)
- Food Industry Workers
- Colleges and Universities
- K-12 Schools
- Emergency Food Providers
- Urban Planning (non-governmental)



Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

Additionally, six at-large seats represent the general public of Detroit. DFPC members do not represent the organizations or institutions with which they are affiliated but, rather, are expected to draw on their experience and expertise about the community and its food system.

The Convening Committee identified and sought letters of interest from eighty-one nominees representing the different food sectors or groups identified above and, after deliberating on the mix of candidates who responded in the affirmative, the Committee forwarded the names of twenty-one final candidates who were invited to serve as DFPC members to the Detroit City Council. Subsequently, lots were drawn to establish which members would serve terms of two or three years so as to stagger the arrival of new members as the original terms end.



Although formed by action of the City Council, the DFPC has no formal relationship to city government and is, in fact, constituted as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The DFPC is an implementation, monitoring, and advisory body that will make recommendations to the Detroit City Council and various other public and private entities about how to improve Detroit's food system. Also, although DFPC members were initially seated by the City Council based on recommendations of the Convening Committee, future members will be identified and recruited by the Council itself.

The DFPC's work is organized through committees and work groups—consisting of DFPC members and interested others—such as for hiring the DFPC coordinator, a plan implementation committee, and one planning for the annual “Powering Up the Food System” conference. Initial funding

of \$30,000 for each of the DFPC's first two years is made possible through an implementation grant to the Detroit Food and Fitness Collaborative by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. Kellogg Foundation has made a multi-year grant to support the DFPC operations, including funding for the inaugural summit and the annual food report.



Work Groups

Four work groups are defined to implement the goals of the DFPC. Brief descriptions of each follow:

Healthy Food Access Work Group will focus on issues related to increasing access to healthy, fresh, and affordable food in the City of Detroit. This group will produce the Annual Detroit Food System Report and use the information gathered to educate citizens, businesses and public sector leaders on policies and best practices that will improve access within neighborhoods to healthy and affordable food for all Detroiters.



Urban Agriculture Work Group will focus on urban agriculture as an essential component of the community's food system. With vast amounts of vacant land within city limits, and the organizational and network capacity developed over the last decade, Detroit growers have a unique opportunity to provide large quantities of fresh food to the city's residents. This work group will encourage community members to engage local government leaders, urging them to adopt policies and programs that benefit all residents.



Community Food Justice Work Group will focus on creating opportunities for Detroiters to participate in all activities of the local food system as consumers, producers, distributors and business owners. This group will address racial, economic and social justice issues related to the food system by educating and engaging community members to create a food system that is bountiful in multiple ways for all of our residents.



Schools and Institutions Work Group will encourage schools and public institutions to offer fresh, healthy food to their students and customers whenever food is served, including breakfast and lunch programs, and special events. It will work with schools to integrate agriculture, aquaculture, nutrition, and related fields in the curriculum. It will also encourage every school, community organization and house of worship to grow a food garden and share its harvest.

Work to date

Over the 18 months since our first convening, DFPC members made many decisions: we elected officers; took steps to incorporate the organization as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit; entered into an agreement with Eastern Market Corporation to set up our offices at their location; set up a financial services agreement with

The Greening of Detroit as we await nonprofit status; opened a bank account, developed financial procedures, and entered into related agreements with funders; hired a coordinator; got the organization functioning in basic ways; contributed to this report; and planned our inaugural summit, “Powering Up the Local Food System.” Over this period, DFPC members also wrote articles and commentary for *The Michigan Citizen* community newspaper. These are listed in Appendix D. With the help of DFPC members, coordinator Cheryl Simon is also in the process of hiring a program manager. She also is in the process of developing proposals for future funding.

DFPC offices are housed at the Eastern Market Corporation office
2934 Russell St., Detroit, MI 48207
313-833-0396

The Council’s bylaws are available at: www.detroitfoodpolicycouncil.net



**“We envision...
a city in which
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to its economic
vitality ...”**

Community Food Security

The DFPC defines Community Food Security as a “condition which exists when all of the members of a community have access, in close proximity, to adequate amounts of nutritious, culturally appropriate food at all times, from sources that are environmentally sound and just.”

Although the above definition suggests an end-state to be achieved once and for all, we also believe that community food security embodies a dynamic process in which ordinary people, leaders at various levels and in diverse sectors, and institutions work to intentionally create the conditions for community food security, and struggle against forces that treat food purely as a commodity or seek to concentrate power in the food system. We believe that the prospects for community food security are improved when ordinary people:

- have ready access—economic and geographic—to healthy and culturally appropriate food at all times;
- know more—and are able to obtain the information they need—about where their food comes from and the conditions whereby it gets to them;
- increase their capacity to grow food, cook healthy meals for their families, preserve food, and become as self-reliant as they wish to be in their food;
- work to build the region’s capacity for meeting as much of its food needs as possible;
- work to improve conditions for and build ownership among all whose livelihoods depend on the food system, with particular emphasis on communities of color and low-income communities;
- help regenerate the soil and ecosystem upon which the food system and all of us ultimately depend; and,
- become engaged in shaping the community’s and region’s food system in an ongoing way.

The DFPC affirms the City of Detroit’s commitment to nurturing the development of a food-secure city in which all of its citizens are hunger-free, healthy, and benefit from the food systems that impact their lives. We affirm the City of Detroit’s commitment to supporting just and sustainable food systems that provide residents with high quality food, employment and opportunities for entrepreneurship, and that contribute to the long-term health of the natural environment.

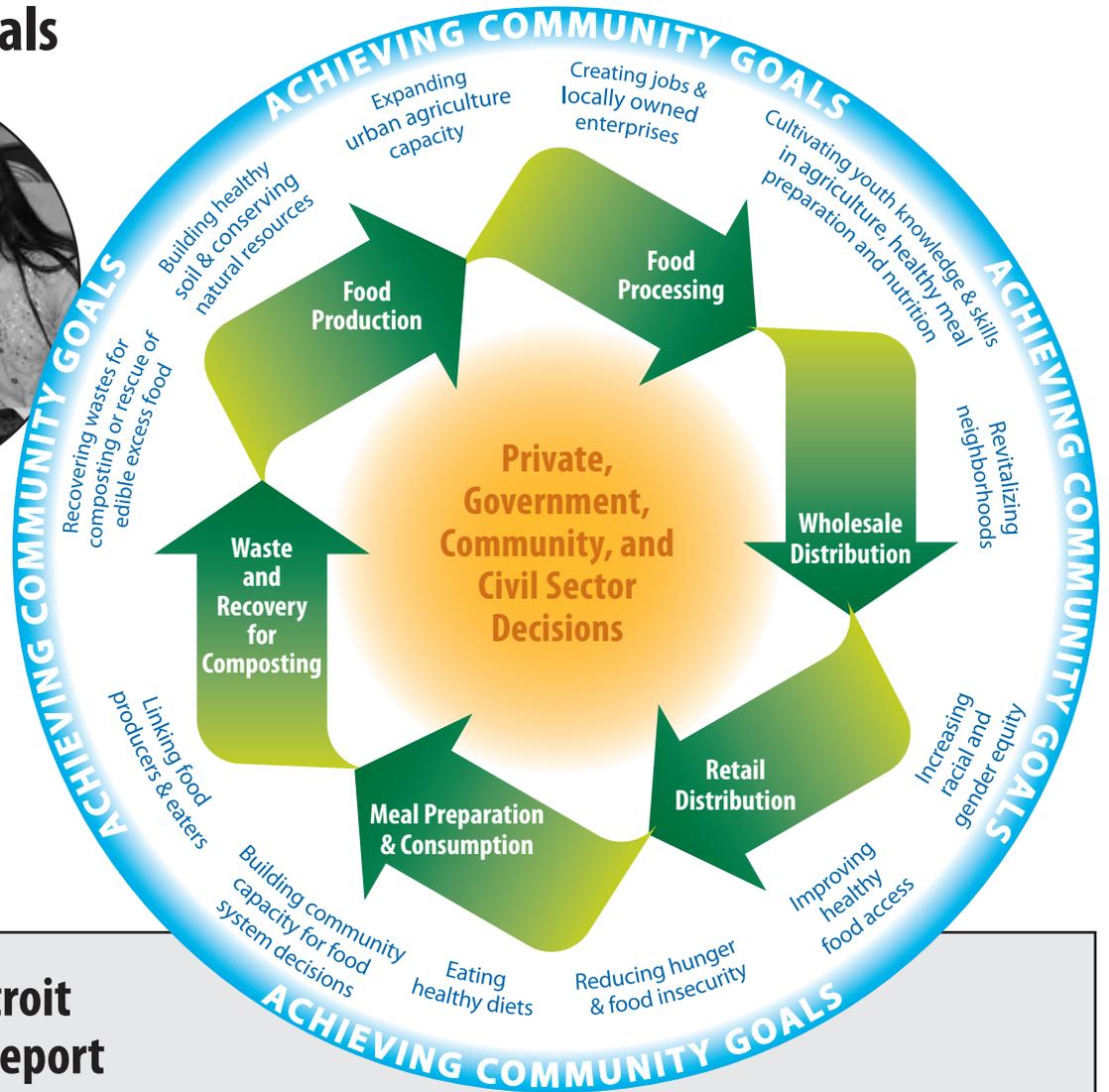


Photo: Eastern Market Corporation

Detroit’s Eastern Market.

**“We envision...
a city in which all
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The Food System and Its Links to Community Goals



The City of Detroit Food System Report

To help realize a stated goal of the DFPC, this report seeks to raise public awareness of key food system issues in Detroit; clarify relevant policies and programs offered by the federal, state and local governments and community-based organizations; and help track progress and provide feedback on policies, programs and activities. We expect that as information and analysis contained in this and future annual reports are disseminated by the DFPC, greater collective understanding of the food system, recommendations for better policies and programs, and sharper questions for future reports will result.

The rest of the report is organized thus: Section 2 contains an overview of basic community indicators for Detroit's people and households, and includes data in socio-economic, demographic, and health-related categories, data on obesity and food insecurity, and recently adopted (or currently proposed) local policies with implications for DFPC's goals.

Section 3 contains data about the city's conventional food economy, including data on production, manufacturing, wholesale, and retail activities; government nutrition programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps) and free and reduced-price school meals; and the charitable food assistance sector. It also discusses state and federal policies—recently adopted or proposed—that affect Detroit's food system.

Finally, Section 4 summarizes activities by community-based organizations to address gaps in the conventional food economy and build an alternative, more sustainable and just food system. Listed activities include urban agriculture, innovative food retail models, farm to school, and food system workforce development. All Sections include needed actions to be considered in the near future by the Detroit Food Policy Council.



Section 2: Detroit Background and Context



Photo: Grandmont-Rosedale Community Garden

THIS SECTION REPORTS ON BASIC POPULATION, HOUSEHOLD, ECONOMIC, AND HEALTH INDICATORS in Detroit as of 2009 or the latest year that data are available. Because details of the 2010 US Census are unavailable as the report goes to print, most estimates calculated specifically for the report are based on the 2009 American Community Survey (ACS). This suggests the need for caution in interpretation of some estimates because of the great difference that exists between the 2009 ACS for Detroit's population and the corresponding 2010 Census figure. In 2009, the ACS estimated Detroit's population at 910,848, suggesting a four percent decadal loss, while the 2010 Census puts Detroit's population at 713,777, showing a loss of 25 percent since 2000.

Population and Household Changes in Detroit, 2000-2009

The city experienced declines in many population and household indicators over the decade ending 2009. Categories that registered growth included the proportion of people belonging to races other than Black (or African-American) or Native American, as well as those with an associate or college degree. These are summarized in the accompanying table.¹

Population: Over the last decade, Detroit lost about four percent of its population, going from 951,000 in the 2000 Census to about 911,000 according to the 2009 American Community Survey. This loss is especially dramatic among people in their childbearing years of 25 to 34 years, and among children 14 years and younger. Despite having lost about 10 percent of its Black population since 2000, the city continues to be predominantly African-American. The number of people identifying themselves as Hispanic or Latino grew by more than 40 percent in 2009 while those identifying themselves as Caucasian grew by nearly 30 percent.



In 2009, more than one in three individuals in Detroit (36 percent) and more than three out of ten families (31 percent) lived in poverty.



The unemployment rate among labor force participants 16 years or older in Detroit nearly doubled to 28 percent between 2000 and 2009. This is nearly three times the current national average.

Households: The number of households with children under age 18 shrank by almost 14 percent, while households consisting of persons living solo increased by about the same rate.² The average household size in 2009 was about 2.8, relatively unchanged over the last decade while the average family size is 3.8, up from 3.4 in 2000. The number of grandparents living with grandchildren under the age of 18 years shrank by almost 9 percent. The number of Detroiters over the age of five who speak a language other than English at home grew by about 18 percent.

Education: Between 2000 and 2009 enrollment of children in school at all levels—from pre-school and kindergarten through grade 12—dropped at the rate of nearly 11 percent overall, with high school enrollment (grades 9-12) seeing the smallest decrease. By contrast, enrollment in college or graduate school increased by 47 percent. As a result, the fraction of population age 25 or over without a high school diploma decreased from 30 percent in 2000 to 23 percent in 2009, while the fraction of those with an associate’s or higher degree went up from 16 percent to 18 percent.

Economic Status: The unemployment rate among labor force participants 16 years or older in Detroit nearly doubled to 28 percent between 2000 and 2009. This is nearly three times the current national average. Households’ economic status also suffered over this period: after adjusting for inflation, the number of households earning \$15,000 or more declined over the decade. Adjusting for inflation, the median household income in Detroit (\$26,000 in 2009) also declined by almost a third since 2000; similarly, per capita income (\$14,000 in 2009) declined by a quarter. The mean household income in Detroit in 2009 was nearly \$37,000, down from \$41,000 in 2000.

Poverty: In 2009, more than one in three persons in Detroit (36 percent) and more than three out of ten families (31 percent) lived in poverty. Between 2000 and 2009, there was a 40 percent increase in the number of people with incomes below the poverty level. Among families with children under 18 years, the rate of increase was nearly 49 percent, with the greatest increase registered among families consisting of a married couple with children (127 percent).

Housing: More housing units were available—nearly 420,000 in 2009 compared to 375,000 in 2000—with most new construction taking the form of either single family detached homes or developments of five units or more (apartments or condominiums). The number of vacant housing units, however, also increased 164 percent from nearly 39,000 in 2000 to 102,000 in 2009. Both owner-occupied and renter-occupied units decreased in number, with the former registering a decrease of nearly 8 percent over the decade.

Of all occupied housing units, those that lack complete plumbing facilities declined nearly 60 percent between 2000 and 2009 while those that lack complete kitchen facilities declined nearly 42 percent. This suggests that residents today experience better housing conditions than in the past. Households that reported no available telephone service also declined by almost 60 percent between 2000 and 2009.

Housing payments: In 2009, the median monthly rent was \$749, showing a decadal increase of nearly 20 percent after adjusting for inflation. The 2009 median monthly mortgage and other owner costs amounted to \$1,169, showing an inflation-adjusted increase of 18 percent. On the whole, more households are spending a significant portion of their incomes for housing, leaving budgets pinched for other important household needs such as food, transportation, and health. In 2000, 34 percent—or one-third—of renting households paid 35 percent or more of their income in rent, while in 2009, this number shot up to nearly six out of ten renting households.

Transportation: While the proportion of occupied units with just one vehicle available (46 percent in 2009) has nearly doubled over the decade; the proportion of those with no vehicle available has remained the same at over one in five (22 percent in 2009). During that period, however, housing units with two or more vehicles available declined a bit from 34 percent of all occupied units to less than 32 percent.

¹ Select indicators are adapted from Data Driven Detroit, Detroit Profile <http://datadrivendetroit.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Detroit-Profile.pdf>. For more information on categories reported here and related margins of error, or for other typical social, economic, or demographic categories not reported here, please browse the source document identified in this footnote.

² A household consists of all the people who occupy a housing unit. There are two major categories of households, “family” and “nonfamily.” A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit such as partners or roomers, is also counted as a household. The count of households excludes group quarters.

Source: Detroit Profile, Data Driven Detroit			Percent Change
Data sources: 2000 Census, 2009 American Community Survey			(See Note 1, p 28)
	2000	2009	
Total Population	951,270	910,848	- 4.25
Male	448,215	422,313	-5.78
Female	503,055	488,535	-2.89
19 years and under	321,566	277,415	-13.73
20-34 years	208,559	181,572	-12.94
35-64 years	321,487	353,233	9.87
65 years and older	99,658	98,628	-1.00
RACE			
(Number of persons claiming) One race	929,456	894,235	-3.79
Caucasian	117,658	151,984	29.17
Black or African American	774,175	695,092	-10.22
American Indian and Alaska Native	3,273	3,046	-6.94
Asian	9,528	15,184	59.36
Some other race (including Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander)	24,822	28,929	16.55
(Number of persons claiming) Two or more races	21,814	16,613	-23.84
Hispanic or Latino	47,257	67,361	42.54
Total households	336,428	317,357	-5.67
Married-couple family	89,660	76,498	-14.68
With own children under 18 years	42,085	29,711	-29.40
Male householder, no wife present, family	22,437	20,360	-9.26
With own children under 18 years	9,343	9,729	4.13
Female householder, no husband present, family	106,386	91,729	-14.05
With own children under 18 years	62,533	53,404	-14.60
Nonfamily households	116,064	129,060	11.20
Householder living alone	99,745	114,096	14.39
65 years and over	31,083	31,717	2.04
Households with one or more people under 18 yrs	139,663	112,929	-19.14
Households with one or more people 65 and over	76,862	74,009	-3.71
Average household size	2.77	2.83	2.17
Average family size	3.45	3.8 0	10.14
Number of grandparents living with own grandchildren under 18 years	38,775	35,364	-8.80

Source: Detroit Profile, Data Driven Detroit

Data sources: 2000 Census, 2009 American Community Survey

2000

2009

Percent Change
(See Note 1, p 28)

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT			
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	295,623	264,557	- 10.51
Nursery school, preschool and kindergarten	34,946	25,501	- 27.03
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	148,610	104,736	- 29.52
High school (grades 9-12)	63,141	62,191	- 1.50
College or graduate school	48,926	72,129	47.42
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT			
Population 25 years and older	563,979	572,587	1.53
Percent high school graduate or higher	69.63 %	77.0%	10.58
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	10.96 %	12.4%	13.09
SELECTED ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS			
Employment Status, Population 16 years and over	683,613	698,031	2.11
Civilian labor force	359,782	378,037	5.07
Employed	331,441	271,074	-18.21
Unemployed	53,259	106,963	100.84
Percent of civilian labor force unemployed	14.8 %	28.2 %	104.42
Commuting to Work, Workers 16 years and over	319,449	262,217	- 17.92
Car, truck, or van – drove alone	219,118	187,256	- 14.54
Car, truck, or van – carpooled	54,537	29,958	- 45.07
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	27,634	19,960	- 27.77
Walked or used other means	12,353	17,497	102.60
Worked at home	5,807	7,546	29.95
INCOME AND BENEFITS (2000 Data in 1999 inflation-adjusted dollars; 2009 Data in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)			
Total households	336,482	317,357	-5.68
Less than \$10,000	64,304	70,821	10.13
\$10,000 to \$14,999	27,914	30,510	9.30
\$15,000 to 24,999	54,133	52,550	- 2.92
\$25,000 to \$34,999	45,063	41,396	- 8.14
\$35,000 to \$49,999	49,930	44,266	- 11.34
\$50,000 to \$74,999	50,432	42,867	- 15.00
\$75,000 or more	44,706	34,947	- 21.83
Median household income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$29,526	\$26,098	- 31.34
Mean household income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$40,837	\$36,699	- 30.19
Households with earnings	251,670	209,684	- 16.68
Mean earnings (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$42,542	\$37,936	- 30.73

Source: Detroit Profile, Data Driven Detroit			Percent Change
Data sources: 2000 Census, 2009 American Community Survey			(See Note 1, p 28)
	2000	2009	
Households with Social Security	89,798	97,247	8.30
Mean Social Security income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$10,113	\$13,964	7.26
Households with retirement income	60,749	67,040	10.36
Mean retirement income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$17,321	\$18,138	-18.65
Households with Supplemental Security Income	36,382	30,625	-15.82
Mean Supplemental Security Income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$6,282	\$7,400	-8.49
Households with cash public assistance income	38,268	28,602	-25.26
Mean cash public assistance income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$3,024	\$3,144	-19.24
Families	220,418	188,297	-14.57
Less than \$10,000	31,684	31,311	-1.18
\$10,000 to \$14,999	16,363	15,563	-4.89
\$15,000 to 24,999	34,215	31,270	-8.61
\$25,000 to \$34,999	30,668	25,543	-16.71
\$35,000 to \$49,999	34,816	28,102	-19.28
\$50,000 to \$74,999	37,022	29,467	-20.41
\$75,000 or more	35,650	40,241	12.88
Median family income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$33,853	\$31,017	-28.83
Mean family income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$45,515	\$41,444	-29.26
Per capita income (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$14,717	\$14,213	-24.98
PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES AND PEOPLE WHOSE INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS IS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL			
All families	21.74	31.30	43.97
With related children under 18 years	28.55	42.50	48.84
With related children under 5 years only	27.25	41.60	52.65
Married couple families	9.61	17.20	79.07
With related children under 18 years	12.31	27.90	126.65
With related children under 5 years only	11.44	25.40	122.06
Families with female householder, no husband present	32.77	42.70	30.29
With related children under 18 years	39.45	50.80	24.77
With related children under 5 years only	39.75	51.80	30.30
All people	26.08	36.40	39.60
Under 18 years	34.81	50.80	45.94
18 to 64 years	22.80	33.20	45.60
65 years and over	18.56	18.70	0.75

Source: Detroit Profile, Data Driven Detroit Data sources: 2000 Census, 2009 American Community Survey			2000	2009	Percent Change (See Note 1, p 28)
HOUSING OCCUPANCY					
Total housing units and tenure	375,096	419,534	11.85		
Occupied units	336,428	317,357	- 5.67		
Vacant housing units	38,668	102,177	164.24		
Owner-occupied	184,672	170,584	- 7.63		
Renter-occupied	151,756	146,773	- 3.28		
VEHICLES AVAILABLE AND OTHER SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS					
No vehicles available	73,682	69,453	- 5.74		
1 vehicle available	75,812	146,351	93.04		
2 vehicles available	84,405	78,673	- 6.79		
3 or more vehicles available	30,074	22,880	- 23.92		
Lacking complete plumbing facilities	7,934	3,187	- 59.83		
Lacking complete kitchen facilities	10,177	5,872	- 42.30		
GROSS RENT					
Occupied units paying rent	150,814	138,868	- 7.92		
Less than \$200	9,178	3,498	- 61.89		
\$200 to \$299	11,151	6,224	- 44.18		
\$300 to \$499	56,337	16,732	- 70.30		
\$500 or more	67,882	112,414	65.60		
Median rent (percent change in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars)	\$486	\$749	19.72		
GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME (GRAPI)					
Occupied units paying rent (excluding units where GRAPI cannot be computed)	150,814	133,794	-11.29		
less than 15.0 percent	31,844	10,985	- 65.50		
15.0 to 24.9 percent	31,971	19,711	- 38.35		
25.0 to 34.9 percent	22,378	23,414	4.63		
35.0 percent or more	51,112	79,684	55.90		

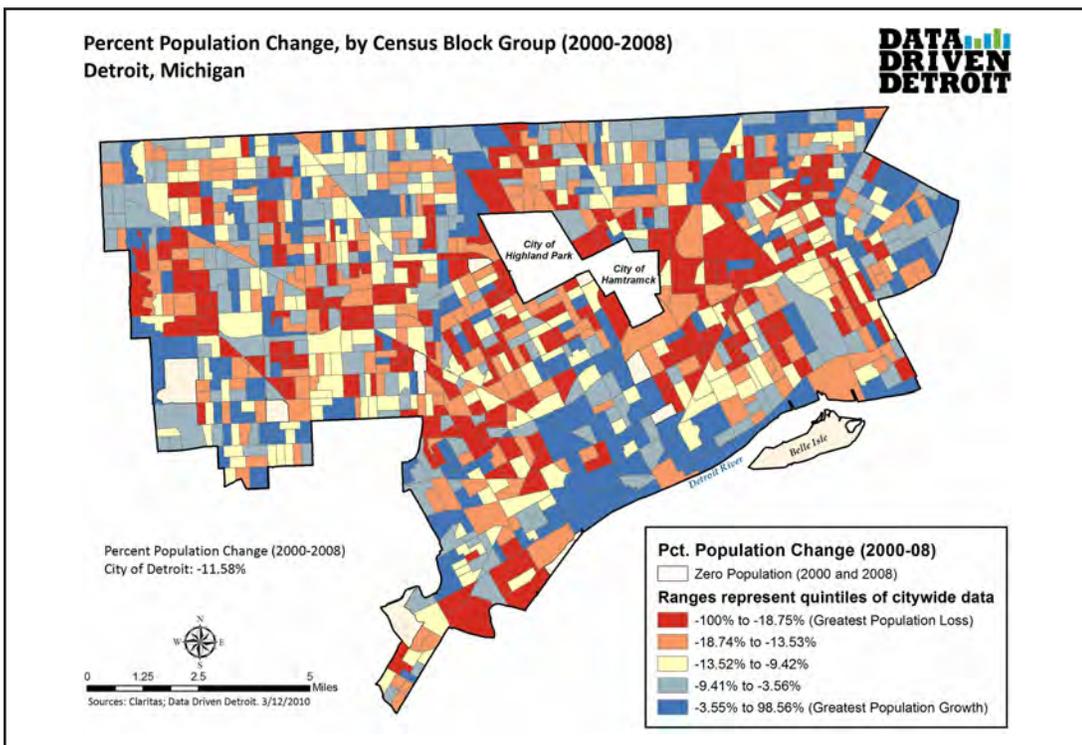
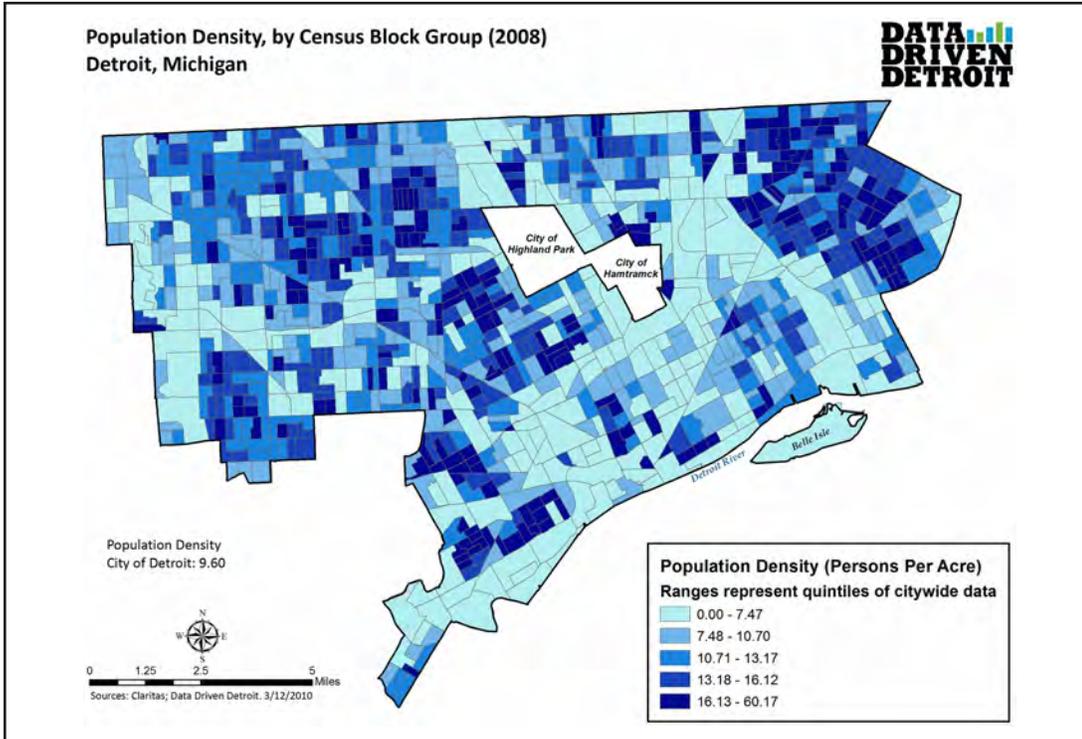
Note 1: The table's "percent change" figures need to be read with caution given wide margins of error for smaller sub-categories. Please refer to the Detroit Profile by Data Driven Detroit to obtain margins of error for each category.

Community Maps: Geographic Distribution of Resources, Challenges

Detroit's population and households and community conditions are unevenly distributed through the city, as are changes experienced in these characteristics over the last decade. The accompanying maps show the distribution of population and income, for example, as well as the distribution of vacant lots and the investment of community development resources by public and private entities.³



Photo: Growtown.org



³ Source: Data Driven Detroit. These and other maps are available at: <http://datadrivendetroit.org/data-mapping>



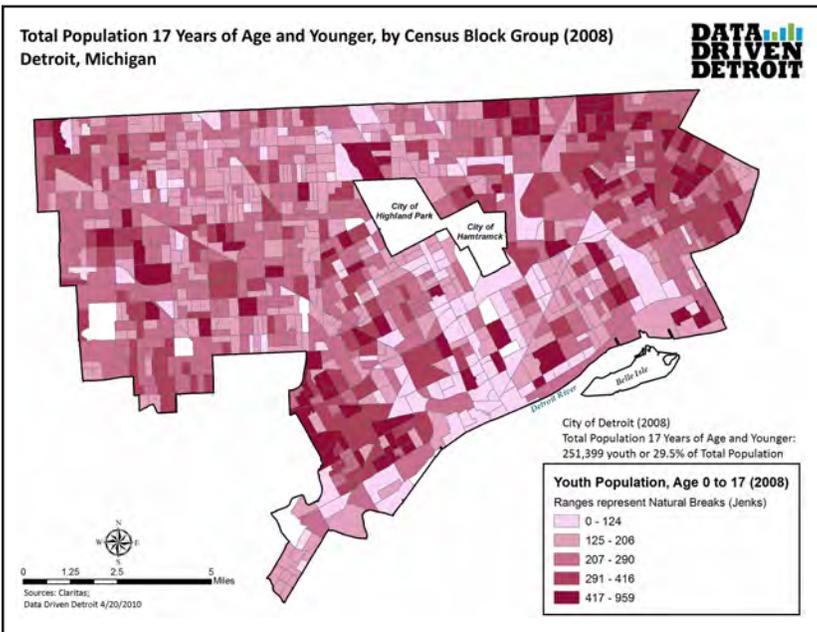
... only 23 percent of high school students in Detroit reported eating fruits and vegetables five or more times a day.

Health, Obesity, and Food Insecurity

Detroit and Wayne County show higher rates of disease and related factors than the state or the nation as a whole. For example, one out of ten babies born in Wayne County is of low birth weight, one out of three adults is obese, one out of four adults smokes, and one out of ten adults is uninsured.⁴ Two out of three Detroiters are overweight or obese.

The two leading causes of death in Detroit in 2007 were heart disease and cancer, with stroke, chronic lower respiratory disease,* unintentional injuries,** and type 2 diabetes trailing behind as the next four causes. Although heart disease and cancer have many causes, poor diets, overweight and obesity, and lack of physical activity are risk factors in both diseases. Additionally, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, and diabetes—all related to diets—increase risk of heart disease. Although deaths attributed to diabetes ranked sixth for Detroit, the city's mortality rate due to the disease is higher than that for the nation as a whole.⁵

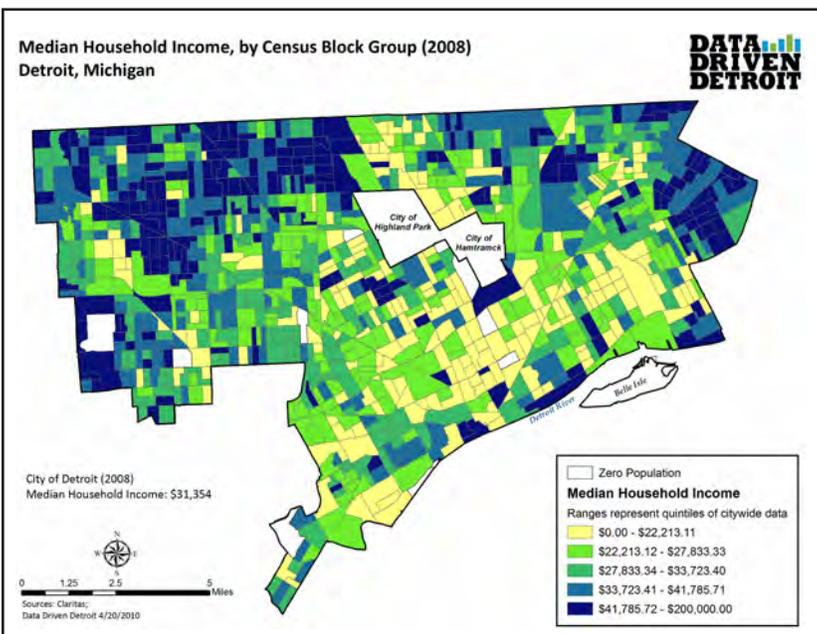
Nationally, obesity is a leading cause of preventable death, second only to smoking. Obesity accounts for



more than nine percent of all healthcare expenditures.⁶ The lifetime medical costs related to diabetes, heart disease, high cholesterol, hypertension, and stroke among obese people are estimated to be \$10,000 higher than among their non-obese counterparts.⁷ Besides heart disease and stroke, obesity also raises the risk for diabetes, cancer, musculo-skeletal disorders such as osteoarthritis and back pain, and respiratory disorders such as shortness of breath and sleep apnea. In addition to the direct health costs borne by obese people, the widespread prevalence of obesity also imposes costs on the rest of society related to higher rates of mortality, health insurance premium costs, and taxpayer-subsidized health care costs.

In Michigan alone, the medical costs associated with adult obesity were \$2.9 billion in 2003 dollars.⁸ People of color suffer from obesity at higher rates than the state as a whole.⁹ Rates for African-American and Hispanic residents of Michigan were 37 and 31 percent, respectively, compared with 26 percent for their white, non-Hispanic counterparts.

Healthy diets and adequate amounts of physical activity are key to maintaining healthy weight. National studies show that people in low-income families eat fewer servings of vegetables and whole grains than do people in wealthier families.¹⁰ In our own neighborhood of Wayne County, fewer than one quarter of residents report consuming fruits and vegetables five or more times a day; 28 percent reported that they did not participate in any physical activities in the past month.¹¹ In another survey, only 23 percent of high school students in Detroit reported eating fruits and vegetables five or more times a day.¹² Household food consumption patterns and related expenditures are also discussed in Section 3.



* A group of illnesses including asthma, emphysema and chronic bronchitis. ** Falls, vehicle accidents, fires, poisoning, drowning and choking.

Obesity among Detroit's youth

The 2009 Detroit Youth Risk Behavior Survey¹³ reports the following for high school students:

Obesity

- 21 percent were obese (students who were >95th percentile for body mass index, by age and sex, based on reference data).

Unhealthy Dietary Behaviors

- 77 percent ate fruits and vegetables fewer than five times per day during the 7 days before the survey.
- 67 percent ate fruit or drank 100 percent fruit juices fewer than two times per day during the 7 days before the survey.
- 90 percent ate vegetables fewer than three times per day during the 7 days before the survey.
- 29 percent drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop at least once per day during the 7 days before the survey.

Physical Inactivity

- 27 percent did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on any day during the 7 days before the survey.
- 84 percent were not physically active at least 60 minutes on one or more of the 7 days before the survey.
- 55 percent did not attend physical education (PE) classes in an average week when they were in school.
- 74 percent did not attend PE classes daily when they were in school.
- 48 percent watched television 3 or more hours per day on an average school day.
- 28 percent used computers 3 or more hours per day on an average school day.

The survey also indicates that while many schools pay attention to the school food environment and health and physical education—for example, three out of five high schools prohibited all forms of advertising and promotion of candy, fast food restaurants, or soft drinks in all locations, and four out of five taught 14 key nutrition and dietary behavior topics in a required course and had a required PE course in all grades in the school—more needs to be done. More than two out of five schools still sell less nutritious foods and beverages outside the school food service program.



The 2009 Detroit Youth Risk Behavior Survey reports the following for high school students: 21 percent were obese.



⁴ For comparative figures, see 2010 County Health Ranking, Michigan data, www.countyhealthrankings.org/michigan/data

⁵ Source: City of Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion.

⁶ Source: www.americashealthrankings.org/2010/disparity/obesity.aspx

⁷ Bhattacharya and Sood, 2004. www.ers.usda.gov/publications/efan04004/efan04004g.pdf

⁸ www.cdc.gov/obesity/stateprograms/fundedstates/michigan.html

⁹ Differences in Prevalence of Obesity Among Black, White, and Hispanic Adults – United States, 2006–2008. www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5827a2.htm#tab2

¹⁰ USDA, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, 2008, www.cnpp.usda.gov/Publications/NutritionInsights/Insight42.pdf

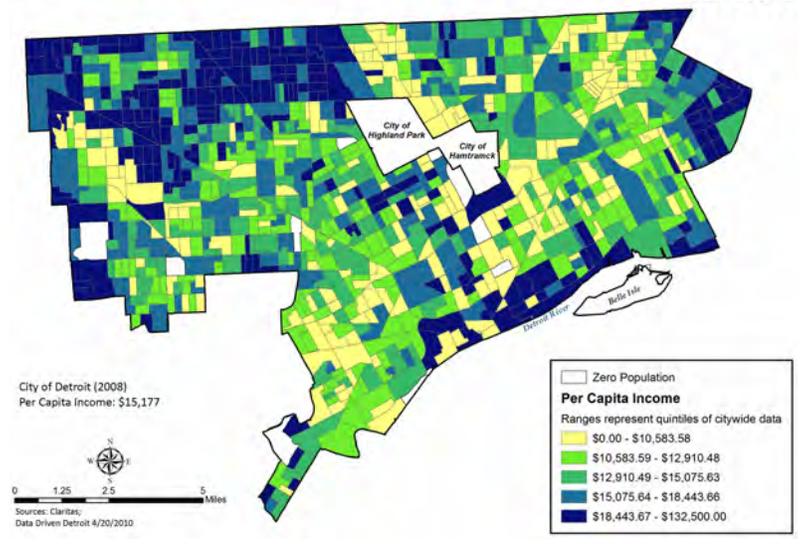
¹¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2009, BRFSS City and County Data, Select City and County Data, Detroit-Livonia-Dearborn (Wayne County, MI). <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/BRFSS-SMART/SelQuestion.asp?MMSA=26&yr2=2009&VarRepost=&cat=FV#FV>.

¹² www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/pdf/obesity/detroit_obesity_combo.pdf

¹³ www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/pdf/obesity/detroit_obesity_combo.pdf

Per Capita Income, by Census Block Group (2008)
Detroit, Michigan

**DATA
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DETROIT**





Within Detroit, the majority of retailers that accept food stamps are gas stations, liquor stores, convenience stores, dollar marts, and other locations where little to no fresh or healthy food is sold.

The Food Economy, Environment, and Diets

The quality of diets cannot be separated from the broader neighborhood food environment from where food is acquired. While scant research exists on Detroiters' diets, there is reason to believe that our diets, like much of the rest of the country, typically contain high levels of refined carbohydrates and added fats and sugars, reflecting a greater reliance on packaged, processed foods, fast-food outlets, and ready-to-eat meals obtained from food stores.

Racial and income disparities permeate access to healthy foods in metropolitan areas nationwide. People living in predominantly low-income and non-white neighborhoods tend to have poorer access to healthy food. These inequalities in the food retail environment further disadvantage low-income communities and communities of color, whose members are already limited in their ability to purchase healthy food. Nearly 70,000 Detroit households lacked a private automobile in 2009, suggesting their greater dependence on stores in close proximity with fewer healthy choices and higher prices. In the United States, increased access to supermarkets is associated with lower prevalence of overweight and obesity, improved fruit and vegetable consumption, and better diet quality among African Americans, low-income households, and pregnant women.¹⁴ By contrast, increased reliance on convenience stores is associated with increased risk of obesity; such stores are more prevalent in low-income and African-American neighborhoods such as those in Detroit.

According to a study conducted by Mari Gallagher (2007), roughly 550,000 Detroit residents live in areas in which they are at least twice as far from a mainstream grocer as from a “fringe food location.” Within Detroit, the majority of retailers that accept food stamps are gas stations, liquor stores, convenience stores, dollar marts, and other locations where little to no fresh or healthy food is sold. Instead, most of the retailers where food stamps are accepted specialize in the sale of alcohol, tobacco, lottery tickets, and “a comparatively small selection of prepackaged and canned food products high in salt, fat, and sugar.”¹⁵

Healthy foods need to be both accessible and affordable before people will consume more of them and fewer unhealthy kinds. Because energy-dense foods (highly refined foods high in added fat and sugar) cost less than healthier diets, people with limited budgets are especially challenged to eat healthfully.¹⁶ Other factors implicated in poor diets include high-pressure marketing and other strategies by food manufacturers to persuade people—especially youth—to consume unhealthy foods; the greater palatability of foods high in fat, sugar and salt; more sedentary patterns of work and travel; and the emphasis on convenience in today's hectic lifestyles. All these factors suggest that structural and policy changes that make healthy diets more economical and accessible are needed to combat obesity in addition to changes in consumption patterns such as reducing portion sizes and cutting back on pop, and becoming more physically active.

Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University | Inset: Earthworks Urban Farm



Above: Detroit convenience store.



Left: Meldrum Fresh Market at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen expands access to organic, fresh and healthy food.

¹⁴ Morland K, Diez Roux A, Wing S. “Supermarkets, other food stores, and obesity.” The Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 2006;30(4):333-9. Zenk SN, Schulz AJ, Hollis-Neely T, Campbell RT, Holmes N, Watkins G, et al. “Fruit and vegetable intake in African Americans: income and store characteristics.” *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 2005; 29(1):1-9. Rose D, Richards R. “Food store access and household fruit and vegetable use among participants in the US Food Stamp Program.” *Public Health Nutrition*, 2004;7(8):1081-8.

¹⁵ “Examining the impact of ‘Food Deserts’ on public health in Detroit,” www.marigallagher.com/projects/2

¹⁶ Drewnowski A, Darmon N. “Food choices and diet costs: an economic analysis.” *Journal of Nutrition* 2005;135(4):900-4.



Photo: Growtown.org

Hunger and Food Insecurity

Every year, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) tracks the incidence of food insecurity in the country. Food insecurity is defined by the agency as a lack of consistent, dependable access to enough food for active, healthy living. In 2009, 14.7 percent of households (or 17.4 million households) were food insecure at least some time during that year nationally. This is the highest recorded prevalence of food insecurity since 1995 when the first national food security survey was conducted. About a third of food-insecure households (6.8 million households, or 5.7 percent of all U.S. households) had very low food security, a severe range of food insecurity in which the food intake of some household members was reduced and normal eating patterns were disrupted due to limited resources.¹⁷ Nearly 11 percent of households with children, or 4.2 million households, were food insecure.

Although specific city data are unavailable, the report makes other points to suggest that prevalence of food insecurity in Detroit is much higher than the national average. For example:

- Rates of food insecurity were substantially higher than the national average among households with incomes near or below the federal poverty line, among households with children headed by single parents, and among Black and Hispanic households.
- Food insecurity was more common in large cities than in rural areas.
- Fifty-seven percent of food-insecure households in the survey reported that in the previous month they had participated in one or more of the three largest federal food and nutrition assistance programs.

Given the above and the high rate of poverty in Detroit in 2009, this report estimates Detroit's food insecurity rate to be more than 30 percent.

In a 2009 survey of 27 cities on emergency food assistance and homeless services, the US Conference of Mayors reported that requests for food assistance in Detroit increased by 30 percent over the previous year, and 75 percent of those requesting food assistance were members of families.¹⁸ They also reported an increase in requests from middle-class households that used to donate to food pantries, as well as increases in requests from families and from the uninsured, elderly, working poor, and homeless. People also were visiting food pantries and emergency kitchens more often.

¹⁷ USDA, Economic Research Service, 2010, www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/Err108

¹⁸ US Conference of Mayors, 2009, Hunger and Homelessness Survey, www.usmayors.org/pressreleases/uploads/USCMHungercompleteWEB2009.pdf



Detroit's food insecurity rate is estimated at more than 30 percent.



Photo: Grandmont-Rosedale Community Garden



A 2009 survey... reported that requests for food assistance in Detroit increased by 30 percent over the previous year, and...an increase in requests from middle class households that used to donate to food pantries.



Detroit Works

Project...will help guide decisions related to the physical location and form of urban agriculture in the city.

Local Policy Issues with Implications for Food Security

This section discusses recent and emerging policy decisions or frameworks in Detroit from the perspective of DFPC goals related to healthy food access, urban agriculture, and composting, and outlines broad actions DFPC may wish to take. For a discussion of urban agriculture policy, see Section 3.

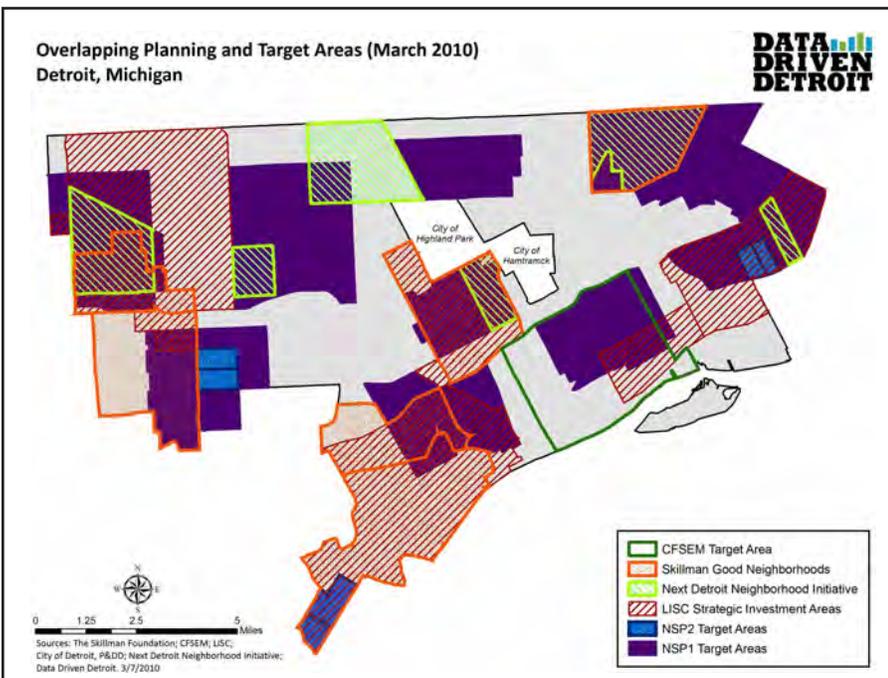
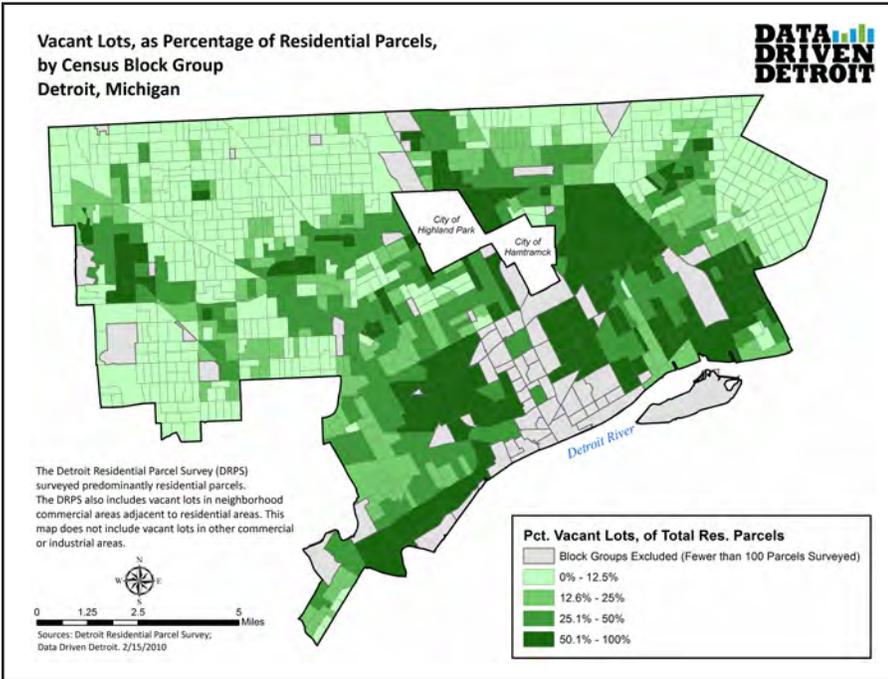
Detroit Works – Strategic Planning Framework

In July 2010 Mayor Dave Bing announced the Detroit Works Project, a 12-18 month process to create a collective vision for Detroit’s future at the neighborhood, city and metropolitan scale. This process will serve as a roadmap for investment and action by government, community and faith-based groups, businesses, and philanthropic and nonprofit organizations. Aimed at adopting a shared vision for the City of Detroit in the

short and long term, the Detroit Works roadmap will be based on evidence; involve the community in the planning process; provide a bold and visionary plan for moving forward; and prioritize implementation strategies.

The Technical Team is analyzing a myriad of baseline data, best practices and other information that will inform the plan over a broad range of topics, including: economic recovery; landscape and ecology; environmental sustainability; historical and cultural resources; green and gray infrastructure; land use, zoning and land development; neighborhood, housing and amenities; services, operations and fiscal reform; and transportation and transit. In addition to five citywide community forums attracting over 4,500 residents, the Community Engagement team is currently engaged in a round of 40 smaller community forums throughout the city. Based on all data and input collected to date, strategic alternatives will be developed and shared with the community for input and feedback, and the “plan adoption process” will take place starting in September 2011 (means of adoption still to be determined).

This process will impact food systems in a few ways. First, it will help describe a variety of interventions for neighborhoods, including the support for a system of food retail that responds to Detroiters’ needs and the conditions in neighborhoods. Second, it will help guide short-term and long-term decisions related to the physical location and form of urban agriculture in the city. The Detroit Food Policy Council should actively participate in the community engagement process and provide relevant information related to food system policy for consideration within the process.



Detroit Public Schools Consolidation

Due to steep declines in student enrollments over the last decade and related budget woes, the Detroit Public School system has experienced sweeping changes. During the 2009-2010 school year, 25 schools were closed. Vocal community groups were able to save schools with greenhouses and farms from closure, but some of these may be threatened once again in a proposed plan to close another 40 schools over the next two years.¹⁹

There are several implications of school closures from the perspective of Detroit's food security. These and others that are only just emerging need to be closely monitored and documented to inform future decisions. One, the efforts by DPS schools over the last few years to implement schoolyard gardening, farm-to-school programs, and the integration of urban agriculture into biology classes will be set back as such schools are shut down. Two, as schools that are open become more distant from neighborhoods, students have to travel longer distances, and run the risk of missing breakfasts that are offered before classes begin. Participation rates are already below fifty percent in the breakfast programs; delays in getting to school may jeopardize participation even further. Three, the land with closed schools may now become available to urban agriculture interests in the community. Indeed, one such property on Detroit's east side was closely studied for just such a purpose.

The DFPC should inform itself systematically about these and other implications and take needed actions, including to ensure that the participation rate by students in child nutrition programs in schools is increased; school infrastructure that builds urban agriculture capacity is preserved and harnessed into the future; and the transfer of land with closed schools to community-oriented urban agriculture uses is enabled.

New contract on incineration of solid waste in Detroit in 2010

Since 1989, Detroit has incinerated solid waste from residential, commercial, and other sources. The consequences of this approach to solid waste disposal are significant: a lack of support for recycling (and composting of organic material) and associated public expenditures and loss of revenue, and the health impacts caused by the incinerator in nearby neighborhoods and associated expenses to households and the public.

The City built the incinerator, sold it in 1991 for cash flow, but retained the debt obligation of the 20-year bond, which was paid off in July 2009. The service agreement with the Greater Detroit Resource Recovery Authority (GDRRA) obligates the City to deliver trash to GDRRA. In December 2010, the incinerator was purchased by Detroit Renewable Energy, part of Atlas Holdings based in Connecticut. Also in December 2010, GDRRA approved an 11-year contract with the incinerator, at a price of \$25/ton.

One upside of the contract is that there is no tonnage requirement, i.e., the city can divert unlimited tonnage of solid waste away from the incinerator by recycling. A downside, however, is that the incinerator will continue to operate and contribute to the pollution burden of a community already "high priority" according to the EPA's environmental justice criteria.



Photo: Sylvie Shain/Urban Roots

Catherine Ferguson Academy, a Detroit Public School for pregnant and parenting teen girls, that incorporates farming into its innovative programming.



During the 2009-2010 school year, 25 schools were closed. Vocal community groups were able to save schools with greenhouses and farms from closure, but some of these may be threatened once again in a proposed plan to close another 40 schools over the next two years.

¹⁹ Detroit Public Schools, press release, March 30, 2011, <http://detroit12.org/news/article/2288/> (accessed April 4, 2011)



Watering part of the two-acre D-Town Farm, an urban farm in a city park. The farm is operated by the nonprofit Detroit Black Community Food Security Network.



Since 1989, Detroit has incinerated solid waste... The consequences... are significant: a lack of support for recycling (and composting of organic material) and associated public expenditures and loss of revenue, and the health impacts caused by the incinerator in nearby neighborhoods and associated expenses to households and the public.

As of this writing, the new owners of the incinerator are seeking a 12-year tax abatement from the City as well as approval from the State of Michigan to float a \$75 million bond. At a time of steep loss of revenues and threats to basic programs serving low-income households, it is important to ask if these subsidies reflect the priorities of the residents of the state and the city.

The city should create a strong solid waste policy which gives top priority to reduce wastes and encourage recovery of materials from the waste stream. The DFPC should examine this issue closely and prepare a position to bring to the city. Specifically, the DFPC should undertake a study of the amount of compostable food waste currently being incinerated, the feasibility of diverse approaches to collecting and composting such wastes, and an assessment of strategies to encourage the reduction of food system wastes of all forms, including packaging.

Actions Needed

The DFPC should consider and take several actions as they relate to content in this section, including to:

- Track and analyze, on an ongoing basis, data related to Detroit’s population, households and community indicators. Categories should include both challenges such as poverty and food insecurity, but also resources such as vacant land, schools, existing investment, etc., that can positively affect food security and advance the development of a just and sustainable food system.
- Advocate for and support research specific to Detroit that sheds light on dietary health factors and outcomes, including those related to food costs, and the neighborhood and school food environments.
- Flesh out the implications of policy changes occurring in Detroit and develop brief position papers to share with community leaders, and develop related community education and outreach campaigns.
- Consider for future DFPC reports additional community indicators than were possible in this report. Examples may include indicators related to arts, culture and literacy on key community food system issues.





Section 3: Overview of Detroit's Food System



Photo: JimWestPhoto.com

A girl holds a box of organic tomatoes she and other children have grown on vacant lots in Detroit. The city has many vacant lots that could be used to grow food to sell at neighborhood markets.

THIS SECTION DISCUSSES ACTIVITIES IN THE CONVENTIONAL FOOD SYSTEM IN DETROIT, including food production, manufacturing, wholesale and retail distribution, food consumption, and waste generation. It also contains data and analysis related to federal nutrition programs, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (or SNAP, formerly referred to as food stamps), Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance to Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), free and reduced-price school lunch and breakfast programs, Summer Food Service Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Service Program. Finally, it includes information on the charitable food assistance sector. Sources of data are identified for each category. The section concludes with recommendations for related actions that the DFPC should consider in the near future.

Because many food system economic activities are related to the broader region's economic health, data are provided for the city, county, region, and state as applicable. Data from 2007 censuses of agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale, and retail are used as these are the most recent available.



...the portion of Wayne County's total acreage dedicated to fruit and vegetable production is higher than that for the state as a whole...

The Conventional Food Sector

Agriculture

The 2007 Census of Agriculture shows no entries specifically for Detroit; however, Wayne County showed a total of 313 farms with a total acreage of 17,443, and average size of 56 acres. Wayne County farms sold nearly \$29 million worth of agricultural products (food and non-food), and received \$93,000 in government payments of different kinds. Forty-seven percent of farms in Wayne County, or 146 farms, listed farming as a primary occupation for the principal farm operator; for the state as a whole, this ratio is slightly lower, at 44 percent.

As the accompanying table shows, fruit and vegetable production is a miniscule portion of all agriculture in the state as well

as the region. Nonetheless, it is noteworthy that the portion of Wayne County's total acreage dedicated to fruit and vegetable production is higher than the state as a whole and more than twice that for the rest of the region.

The economic potential of agriculture in southeastern Michigan region is great. According to noted author Michael Shuman, a twenty percent shift in spending toward regionally produced food in the five counties surrounding Detroit—Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, and Wayne—would result in an annual increase in economic output of roughly \$3.5 billion, creating an estimated 36,000 jobs, and an additional \$155 million in tax revenues available for government entities.¹ It is of interest to DFPC that small-scale farming of the kind occurring in the metro area be preserved and encouraged.

For the many urban agricultural activities ongoing in Detroit, refer to Section 4. As readers may know, Detroit's potential for urban agriculture is enormous given the large amount of vacant land and the number of skilled leaders and organizations to support urban agriculture. More recently, Kathryn Colasanti, MSU graduate student, studied the potential for fruit and vegetable production on publicly owned vacant land and the portion of the city's needs that this could supply. See accompanying sidebar on page 39 for findings from her study.

Photo: Sylvie Shain, Urban Roots



Farms and Vegetable and Fruit Production (2007 Census of Agriculture)	Michigan	9-County Southeastern Michigan Region²	Wayne County
Farms (number)	56,014	7,967	313
Farms (acres)	10,031,807	1,049,140	17,443
Average size of farm (acres)	179	121	56
Vegetables harvested for sale (farms)	2,878	555	65
Vegetables harvested for sale (acres)	174,685	20,696	728
Orchards (number)	2,712	264	16
Orchards (acres)	115,284	2,883	63
Percentage of total acreage in vegetable and fruit production	2.89%	2.25%	4.53%

¹ Source: www.fairfoodnetwork.org/resources/economic-impact-localizing-detroits-food-system

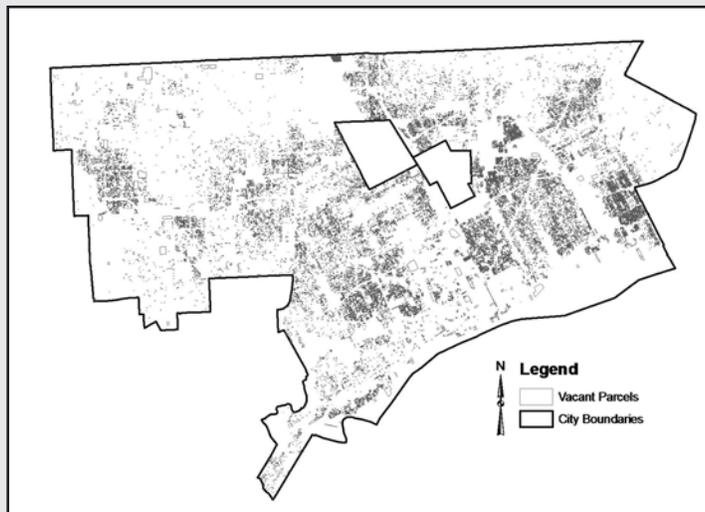
² The counties included are Genesee, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne.

Agricultural Capacity in Detroit

A Study by Kathryn Colasanti, Michigan State University

Research Purpose: Detroit has emerged as a major locus in the movement to bring agriculture back to the city. This research sought to estimate the quantity of publicly owned vacant land within Detroit city limits and the portion of fruits and vegetables consumed annually in the city that cultivating this land could supply.

Methods: We obtained a database of all land parcels in Detroit from the City of Detroit GIS Sales and Service Center. From this database, we identified all parcels that were both publicly owned and did not have any buildings present. Parcels owned by the City of Detroit Recreation Department were excluded. We performed a visual cross-reference using aerial imagery to ensure validity of our findings. In order to estimate the maximum quantity of fruits and vegetables that could be grown in Detroit's seasonal conditions in comparison to the quantity of fruits and vegetables Detroiters eat each year and the land that would be needed to grow this quantity, we compiled consumption data by gender and age range (available nationally), the seasonal availability of specific fruits and vegetables, and crop yield levels. We also looked at different production scenarios, including using unheated hoop houses to extend the growing season and storage facilities to store crops like potatoes and onions through the winter.



The Amount of Land Needed to Supply the Maximum Quantity of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Possible to Grow Seasonally

		Acreage Needed	% Annual Consumption Supplied
Field only	High Biointensive	263	31% Veg 17% Fruit
	Low Biointensive	894	
	Commercial Yields	1,660	
Field + Storage	High Biointensive	511	65% Veg 39% Fruit
	Low Biointensive	1,839	
	Commercial Yields	3,063	
Field + Storage + Season extension	High Biointensive	568	76% Veg 42% Fruit
	Low Biointensive	2,086	
	Commercial Yields	3,602	

Findings: The land inventory resulted in a tally of over 4,800 acres of vacant, publicly owned parcels, the majority of which were residential and owned by the city. The vacant land was most heavily concentrated on the east side of the city (see accompanying map).

Findings show that cultivating between 570 and 3,600 acres (depending on the yield levels used in the analysis) could provide roughly three-quarters of the current fresh vegetable consumption and just under half of the current fresh fruit consumption (excluding tropical fruits) of Detroiters annually (see accompanying table). Based on low-yield biointensive growing methods—the most reasonable form of agriculture to expect in an urban setting—about 2,000 acres (less than half of the available land catalogued) would suffice to grow the aforementioned quantities of fruits and vegetables.

Our research shows that by harnessing the city's resources in land, people and organizational leadership, it is possible for Detroit's urban agriculture to meet a significant portion of the city's food needs.

For more information on this research, see: Colasanti, K., & Hamm, M. W. (2010). "The Local Food Supply Capacity of Detroit, MI." *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems and Community Development*, 1(2), 1-18. (The original report on which this paper is based, "Growing Food in the City: The Production Potential of Detroit's Vacant Land," can be downloaded from www.mottgroup.msu.edu).

Food Manufacturing

In Detroit, as in the rest of the region and the state, food manufacturing (NAICS Code 311) is a relatively small part of the overall manufacturing scene. About 13 percent of all manufacturing establishments in Detroit (compared with less than six percent for the state) relate to food, and food represents about two percent of manufacturing sales and five percent of employees in manufacturing.

By all measures, food manufacturing in Detroit declined over the last decade. According to the 2007 Census of Manufacturing, the City of Detroit had 59 establishments that did \$247 million in business, and had 1,057 employees drawing an annual payroll of more than \$35 million. By comparison, the 1997 Census showed 92 establishments that did business worth \$549 million dollars (not adjusted for inflation), and employed approximately 4,000 persons.

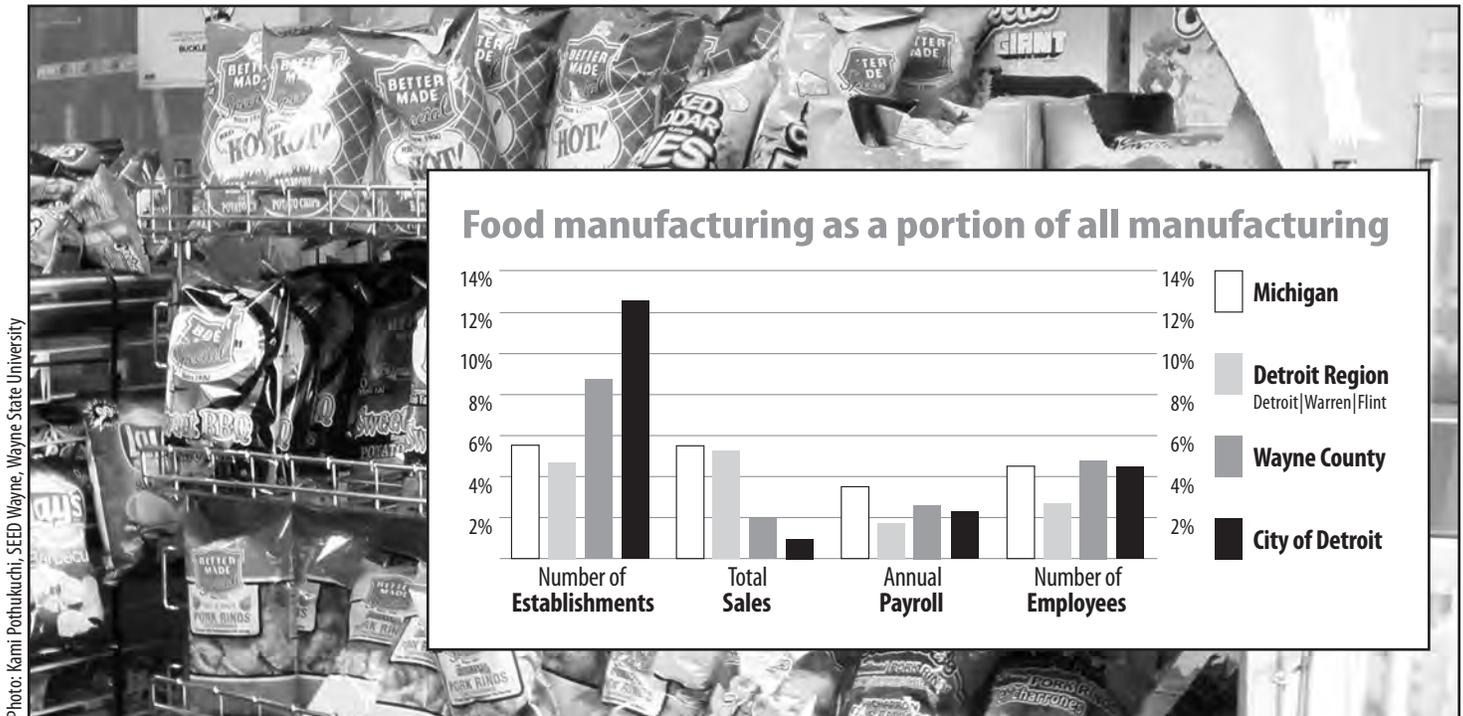


Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

Better Made Snack Foods has been located in Detroit, Michigan, since 1930. The company uses locally grown potatoes in the manufacturing of its chips.

Wholesale Food Distribution

Food wholesale distribution (NAICS code 4224) is an important contributor to the wholesale sector in the City of Detroit. More than a fifth of all wholesale establishments in Detroit are food-related; more than a quarter of all employees in the wholesale sector are employed by food wholesalers, and more than one-third of all wholesale business in the city is in food. Food wholesale as a proportion of all wholesale is higher for the city and Wayne County than the state as a whole (see accompanying chart).

However, as with manufacturing, food wholesale employment in Detroit declined over the last decade even though sales, after adjusting for inflation, increased in that time period. According to the 2007 Census of Wholesale Trade, Detroit had 101 wholesale establishments that did nearly \$2.63 billion in business and employed just over 2,000 employees who drew a collective payroll of \$105 million. By contrast, the 1997 Census of Wholesale Trade showed 163 food wholesale establishments that employed more than 3,000 individuals and did nearly \$1.5 billion in business in unadjusted dollars (or \$1.92 billion translating 1996 dollars to 2006 dollars).

Retail Distribution

Food retail is where practically all urban residents encounter the food system; grocery and prepared food purchases are, of course, critical to households' survival and wellbeing. Food retail is critical also to the sur-

vival and performance of the retail economy in the city. Food and beverage stores constitute a third of all retail establishments in Detroit and account for more than a quarter of all retail business; they also hire more than a third of all workers in the retail sector. The strength of food retail demonstrates the importance of food to the city's overall retail sector.

Given the decline in the city's population and economy over the last decade, it is unsurprising that the food retail sector also declined. The 2007 Census of Retail Trade shows 709 food and beverage stores doing nearly a billion dollars in sales (\$930 million), and employing more than four thousand employees (4,424) whose collective payroll was \$69 million. By contrast, the data for the 1997 Census show 869 stores doing \$963 million (or \$1.24 billion after adjusting for inflation) in sales and employing 6,265 workers.

Additionally, food service and drinking places are also an important part of a city's economy. In 2007, 909 establishments did \$633 million in sales and employed nearly 13,000 individuals, who drew a payroll of \$166 million.

Approximately eighty food stores were identified in 2010 by a Social Compact study sponsored by the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation as "full-service" grocery stores, i.e., those that carried a complete range of grocery products, including fruits, vegetables, dairy, meat, baked goods, and dry groceries. The accompanying sidebar includes maps of these stores as well as neighborhoods that are underserved, the consequent "leakage" of grocery dollars from these neighborhoods, and the average distance to the nearest grocery store. Appendix A includes a list of all these stores and their addresses as well as a map.



Food and beverage stores constitute a third of all retail establishments in Detroit and account for more than a quarter of all retail business; they also hire more than a third of all workers in the retail sector.



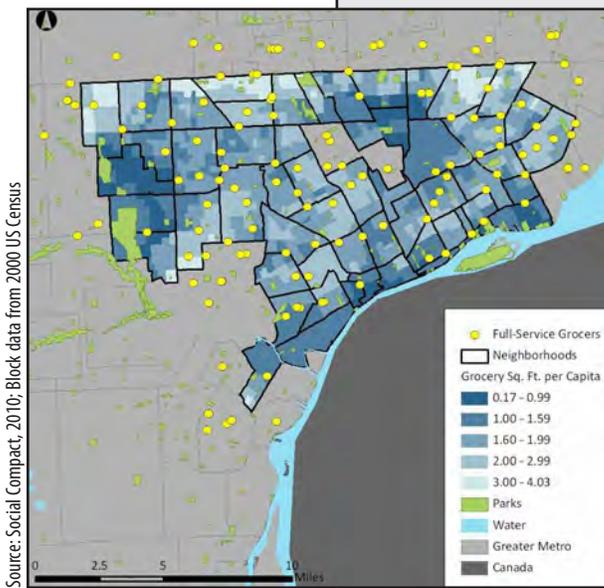
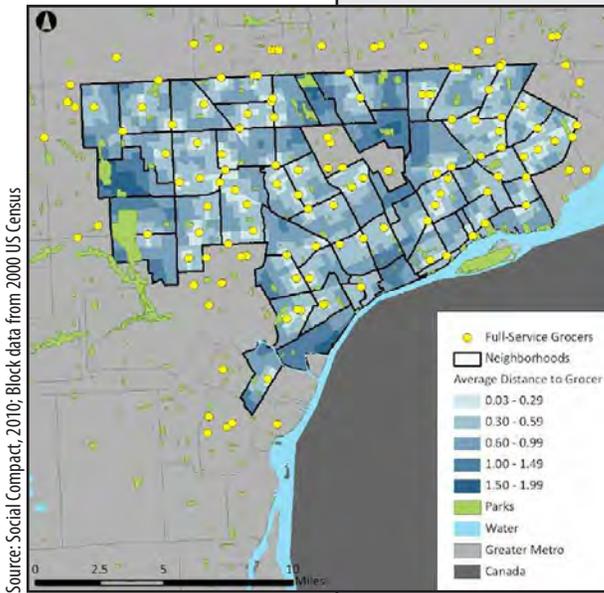
Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

The Detroit Grocery Gap and the Green Grocer Project

The problems Detroiters face related to access to supermarkets is a much researched topic. Among the latest is Mari Gallagher's 2007 study, "Examining the Impact of 'Food Deserts' on Public Health in Detroit." The study notes that fast food and so-called "fringe food outlets" such as gas stations and liquor stores are ubiquitous throughout the city, adding that not a single outlet of a major supermarket chain exists within Detroit's borders. Gallagher found that about 550,000 Detroit residents live in areas in which they experience "an imbalance of healthy food options," that is, they are at least twice as far from a mainstream grocer as from a fringe food location. She also found that the majority of retailers that accept food stamps are gas stations, liquor stores, convenience stores, dollar marts, and other locations where little to no fresh or healthy food is sold. Several initiatives have been put in place since the study, including those related to encouraging new store development as well as expansions of existing stores, healthy corner stores, and neighborhood farm stands (see Section 4 for details).

While clearly much more needs to be done to improve access to fresh and healthy foods in the city, the continuing use of the "food desert" concept is less than helpful. In reality, there exists both a "grocery gap" in Detroit, that is, neighborhoods that are currently underserved relative to demand, as well as a "household budget gap," or the reality that a monthly diet consistently high in fresh vegetables and fruits and whole grains may be out of economic reach of a large number of Detroit households. Thus, we need to identify opportunities to develop new and strengthen existing businesses *as well as* to find ways to supplement household budgets to support the purchase of fresh and healthy foods (See sidebar on Double Up Food Bucks on page 47 for a discussion of this latter option).

In 2008, the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation released a report on their Fresh Food Access Initiative,³ which included findings and recommendations from deliberations of a task force comprised of community and grocery industry stakeholders that met over a period of eighteen months. The report included an industry and market analysis conducted by Social Compact, a Washington, D.C.-based firm. Among the report's recommendations were calls to improve the business climate in Detroit, create a grocery store business expansion and retention program, attend to grocer capacity and workforce development needs, and cre-



Detroit Food System Ownership and Workforce: Social Profile

The ownership patterns of local food system enterprises, wages of workers, and career advancement opportunities, and race and gender disparities among them are relevant to assessing a community's food security. Unfortunately, we know of no source that systematically documents patterns of ownership of operations—large and small—in Detroit's food system and other categories of interest. An excellent report that addresses issues of wages and working conditions in metro Detroit's restaurant industry is "Behind the Kitchen Door," (2010), commissioned by the Restaurant Opportunities Center of Michigan, Restaurant Opportunities Centers United, and the Southeast Michigan Restaurant Industry Coalition.⁴

As of December 2010, there was only one Black-owned grocery supermarket in Detroit—a city in which four

ate innovations in retailing and community relations. In 2010 the DEGC launched “The Green Grocer Project,” which offers grants, loans and technical assistance to selected grocery stores in underserved areas that are seeking to start or strengthen their business (see Section 4, page 60).

In 2010 Social Compact was commissioned to develop another report updating information on Detroit’s retail grocery market and industry dynamics.⁵ Abstracted here are snippets and maps from the Social Compact report.

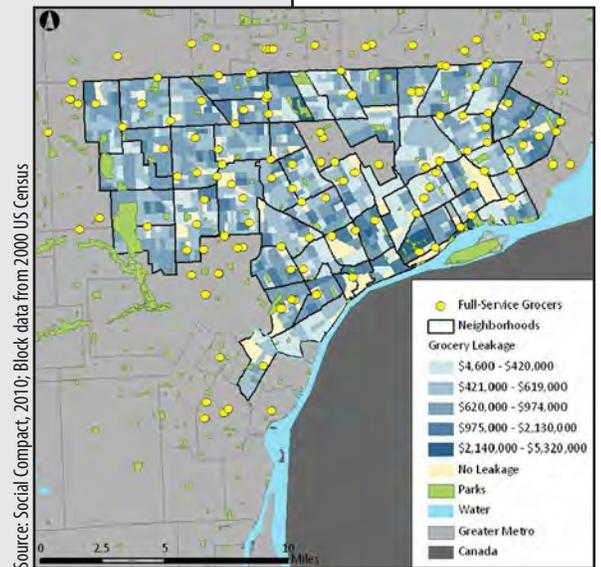
The Grocery Gap in Detroit: Excerpt from Social Compact Report, 2010

Demand for retail grocery continues to go unmet in Detroit. Although there are approximately 80 full-service grocers in the Detroit study area, these grocers provide an average of only 1.59 square feet of grocery retail space per capita, compared to an industry standard of 3.0 square feet per capita. On average, residents in the Detroit study area travel a distance of 0.59 miles to reach a full-service grocer, yet in some neighborhoods residents travel a greater distance, nearly double the city average.

Findings suggest unmet demand for retail grocery totaling \$200 million in Detroit, and existing full-service grocers capture only 69 percent of residents’ expenditures. The estimated \$200 million in grocery leakage could potentially support an additional 583,000 square feet of grocery retail space in Detroit.

Neighborhood grocery availability can be expanded through a variety of initiatives, including attracting full-service grocers as well as small-format stores to opportunity areas and improving upon the quality and diversity of product selection at existing stores.

Photos: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University



out of five residents are African-American. Although a handful of locally owned food businesses and those owned by African-American residents have a higher profile in the community, we urge future research on ownership patterns of food system businesses in the area to learn more about those that are owned by Detroit residents, particularly African Americans, and those that have such residents in leadership or management positions. Such studies could also contain a qualitative assessment of the nature of jobs in the city’s food system and the opportunities and challenges they offer for ownership, advancement and higher wages.

³ www.degc.org/images/gallery/DetroitFreshFoodAccessInitiativeReport.pdf
⁴ This report can be downloaded from www.rocnited.org/files/Michigan_BKD_lores_edit0120.pdf
⁵ www.degc.org/images/gallery/2009%20Detroit%20DrillDown%20Report%20110209.pdf



As of December 2010, there was only one Black-owned grocery supermarket in Detroit—a city in which four out five residents are African-American.



At 13 percent, metro Detroit has the third highest average annual household expenditure for food of 18 metropolitan areas studied in 2008-09, below only Boston and Los Angeles.

Food Expenditures

How much money do Detroiters spend on food, including that consumed at home and consumed outside the home? Data specific to the city on this question are unavailable. The closest we come, unfortunately, are data for the entire metro area. This is less than satisfactory as food expenditure patterns for the inner city expectedly differ from the region as a whole for several reasons, including the paucity of larger supermarkets and the greater density of fast food outlets in the inner city, and lack of affordable transportation options to access more distant supermarkets.

In 2008-09, households in the Detroit metropolitan area (Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint) spent an average of \$6,412 or 10 percent of their pre-tax income (or 13 percent after taxes) on food annually.⁶ Just over three out of five of these dollars were spent on food purchased to be eaten at home. Of the \$3,944 spent on food at home, \$670 (17 percent) was spent on fruits and vegetables, \$849 (22 percent) on meats, poultry, dairy, and eggs, and \$540 (14 percent) on cereals and bakery products. Readers are reminded of the findings of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (reported in Section 2), which shows that fewer than one quarter of Wayne County residents are consuming fruits and vegetables five or more times a day.⁷

At 13 percent, metro Detroit has the third highest average annual household expenditure for food of 18 metropolitan areas studied in 2008-09, below only Boston and Los Angeles. However, it has by far the highest rate for transportation at 19.2 percent, a statistically significant difference from the US as a whole at 16.3 percent. At 33.1

percent for housing, metro Detroit is among the most affordable, second only to Houston (31.9%) in a study of 18 metro areas.⁸

Food System Wastes

Food system wastes are important to track for a variety of reasons. First, these wastes constitute a large portion of all wastes that end up in landfills or, in the case of Detroit, the incinerator. The Detroit incinerator is a significant source of pollutants that cause asthma, among other direct and indirect costs it imposes on the community (see related discussion in Section 2). Second, some food system operations create more packaging and food wastes than others; an analysis of the largest sources of waste would help in prioritizing actions with the greatest potential impact. Finally, food security and urban agriculture practitioners are interested in the development of citywide or neighborhood-scale composting solutions to integrate appropriate kitchen and plate wastes (and other safe outputs of the municipal waste disposal system) into the soil of urban agriculture sites. There is also great interest in the community in rescuing edible foods for distribution to food assistance sites.

Food system wastes come from all activities in the food system, including those from food processing or preparation, plate wastes generated after consumption, wastes from spoilage at all points in the system, and paper and other packaging wastes, such as wrapping and containers from fast food restaurants and delis, and plastic and paper packaging from foods purchased for home consumption.

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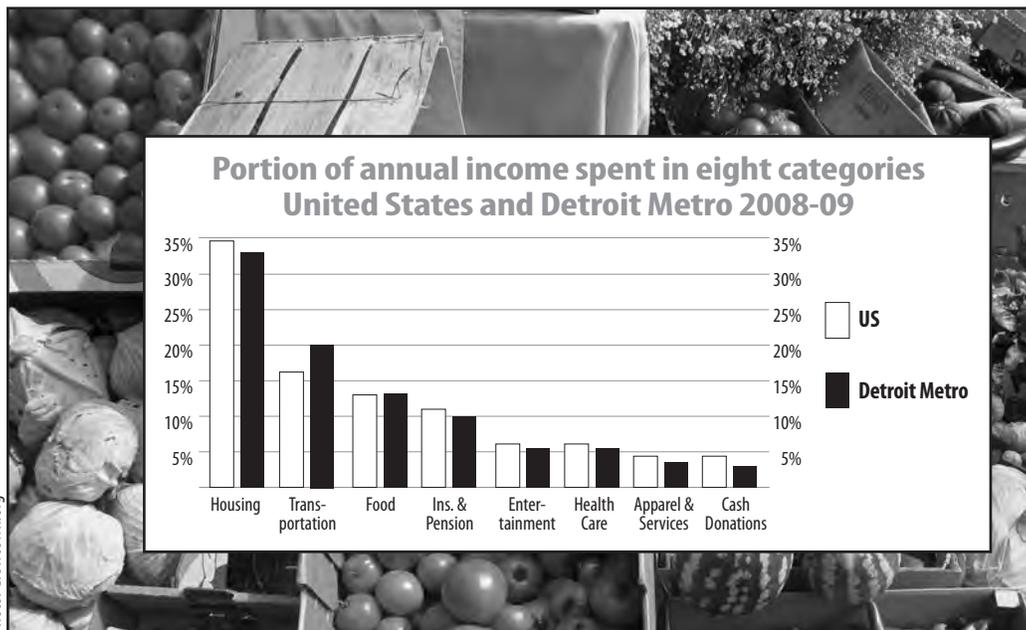


Photo: Growtown.org

⁶ Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditures for the Detroit Area, 2008-09. <http://www.bls.gov/ro5/cexdet.pdf>

⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2009, BRFSS City and County Data, Select City and County Data, Detroit-Livonia-Dearborn (Wayne County, MI). apps.nccd.cdc.gov/BRFSS-SMART/SelQuestion.asp?MMSA=26&yr2=2009&VarRepost=&cat=FV#FV

⁸ Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/ro5/cexdet.pdf



An estimated 80,000 to 100,000 tons of food scrap wastes were created in 2010 in Detroit from various sources. Additionally, a similar amount of yard waste was generated in the city. These estimates are derived from the US Environmental Protection Agency's calculations of municipal solid waste (MSW) and its components. The agency notes that each person created 4.34 pounds of MSW per day in 2009, and 14 percent of this stream consisted of food scraps and another 14 percent consisted of yard wastes.⁹

Given the operational and packaging practices used, especially by fast-food outlets, wastes from these sources are of special concern. Applying to Detroit 2006 data from a California study in which an average of 6,528 pounds of waste were noted per employee per year in fast food outlets and 6,437 pounds per employee per year in other restaurants, conservative estimates suggest nearly 42,000 tons per year from eating places in Detroit, with more than half this waste stream consisting of food.^{10, 11} Related metrics are unavailable to estimate food and other wastes from grocery stores and other food retail or wholesale outlets.



Photo: Earthworks Urban Farm

Compost.



According to the US EPA, about nine percent of the waste that each person generates each day could be recovered for composting.... At the rate approved by GDRRA of \$25/ton, diverting 50,000 tons of waste would result in savings of \$1.25 million annually.

According to the US EPA, about nine percent of the waste that each person generates each day could be recovered for composting. This works out to 140 pounds per person per year, and between 50,000 to 64,000 tons for the City of Detroit depending on the population figures used for the calculation.¹² At the rate approved by the Greater Detroit Resource Recovery Authority (GDRRA) of \$25/ton, diverting 50,000 tons of waste would result in savings of \$1.25 million annually.

Government food and nutrition assistance programs

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, is one of the largest government nutrition assistance programs nationally as well as in Detroit. According to the 2009 American Community Survey, more than one in three Detroit households depend on SNAP to put food on the table.

See the accompanying table for SNAP data for Wayne County and the State of Michigan as a whole. In 2009, Wayne County had a monthly average of about 402,000 participants, who collectively drew about \$52.1

⁹ Source: www.epa.gov/osw/facts-text.htm#chart1. For Detroit: 910,848 persons x 4.34 pounds x 0.14 x 365 days = 202,036,114 lbs. or 101,018 tons of food scraps per year. At the 2010 US Census population level, the food scrap tonnage works out to 79,149. Another source, Jones 2006, suggests estimates that are much lower. According to this source, a household contributes nearly 470 lbs. of food to the waste stream annually leading to 470 lbs. x 317,000 = 148,990,000 lbs. or 74,495 tons. www.redorbit.com/news/science/456435/food_loss_and_the_american_household/index.html

¹⁰ www.cawrecycles.org/files/ciwmb_restaurant_composition.pdf (pages 2 and 6). Combining both fast food and other restaurants, say, at a conservative 6,440 pounds per employee, for 13,000 employees for 2007: 13,000 x 6440 = 83,720,000 lbs, or 41,862 tons per year.

¹¹ A 2006 study by the California Integrated Waste Management Board showed that food makes up 51.4 percent of waste disposed of by fast food restaurants and 66.1 percent of waste disposed of by full-service restaurants. Source: californiawatch.org/health-and-welfare/food-waste-remains-persistent-problem-farms-grocery-stores-and-restaurants

¹² www.epa.gov/reg5srcra/wptdiv/solidwaste/recycle/compost/index.htm. 910,848 x 140 = 127,518,720 lbs. or 63,759 tons could be composted from Detroit households. Calculating these levels based on the 2010 Census data, the equivalent tonnage would be nearly 50,000.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Area and Month	Participants	Households	Total SNAP Benefits	Monthly Benefit Per Person
Detroit 2009 ¹³	NA	109,270	NA	NA
Wayne County, May 2004 ¹⁴	309,150	NA	NA	NA
Wayne County, January 2009 ¹⁵	344,071	188,240	\$45,882,167	\$133.35
Wayne County, July 2009	434,323	209,212	\$58,264,324	\$134.15
Wayne County, January 2010	485,021	234,303	\$65,024,573	\$134.07
Wayne County, July 2010	515,740	254,314	\$72,766,718	\$141.09
Michigan 2009, monthly average	1,450,272	694,341	\$175,572,590	\$121.06
Michigan 2010, monthly average	1,776,368	865,508	\$234,063,603	\$131.77



More than one in three Detroit households depend on SNAP to put food on the table.

million in SNAP benefits or nearly \$134 per month per participant. In 2010, these numbers grew to more than half a million participants per month, whose benefits were approximately \$69 million or about \$138 per participant per month.

The increment in 2010 and part of 2009 over 2008 was due to additional funding made available for SNAP in the Stimulus Bill (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009). This increment also benefited area grocery stores (and farmers' markets) at which SNAP benefits were redeemed.

A couple of years ago, when the full effects of the current recession were yet to be felt, Wayne County displayed high rates of participation by those qualifying for SNAP benefits. In 2007, the Food Research and Action Center put Wayne County's Local Access Indicator (LAI) at 92 percent.¹⁶ LAI for November 2009 declined to 88 percent of eligible people participating in SNAP.¹⁷ Although even this lower rate is higher than that for the country as a whole, it represents a loss of benefits to Wayne County of nearly \$10 million at a time of extraordinary need. It is feared that LAI has declined further still since 2009, and many questions remain about the fate of newly impoverished families with little previous experience with food assistance programs and eligible non-participants.

Are SNAP benefits enough for families to buy a healthy market basket of foods? This is a special concern for Detroiters given the higher share of household budgets taken by food expenditures in the region relative to national averages. The USDA annually puts together budgets for four meal plans for different family sizes and

age groups of members. For July 2010, the USDA calculated the cost for an adult male (19-50 years) of a "thrifty food plan" at \$167 and for an adult female in the same age bracket at \$148.¹⁸ For the same month, the average monthly SNAP benefit per person in Wayne County was \$141.09. The thrifty food plan is the lowest cost plan in USDA's estimated budgets for nutritious meals of varying costs. By contrast, a "liberal food plan," the most expensive, for a grown man and woman would cost, respectively, \$331 and \$270 a month.

Despite these inadequacies, SNAP provided more than 1.5 million meals daily in July 2010 to participating Wayne County residents. It is important for the region's food security that all eligible families participate in SNAP and are enabled to do so by organizations and agencies responsible for SNAP outreach and education.



Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

Double Up Food Bucks Leverage SNAP Benefits

As critical as federal food programs such as SNAP are to enabling impoverished families to buy food, program benefit levels often are inadequate to purchase a range of healthy and fresh foods on a consistent basis. Programs like Fair Food Network's Double Up Food Bucks help fill the benefit gap while also creating other benefits for local communities. DUFB draws on a pool of funds raised from foundations and corporations to match purchases at farmers' markets made using SNAP benefits. When customers use their SNAP benefits at area farmers' markets, they receive an equal amount of tokens, up to \$20 per visit, to use at the market to purchase fresh Michigan-grown produce.

Piloted in Detroit in 2009 as Mo'Bucks, in 2010 DUFB provided nearly \$92,000 to match \$112,000 worth of SNAP spending for the same period at 13 farmers' markets in metro Detroit and Toledo. Thus, for households, DUFB provides additional resources with which to buy healthy and fresh foods. It also allows local shoppers to try other healthy foods that may be unfamiliar to them—experimentation that most low-income families can ill afford. DUFB spending also benefits local farmers and builds their capacity to participate in farmers' markets. In addition to these goals, Fair Food Network also aims to contribute to public policy that integrates concerns related to health, hunger and nutrition, with the imperatives of building a sustainable food system (see also Section 4).



WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)

The WIC Program provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding and non-breastfeeding women, infants and children up to age five.

Approximately 35,000 eligible women, infants, and children participated monthly in FY 2010, according to the City of Detroit's Department of Health and Wellness Promotion.¹⁹ It is important that DFPC collect information annually on participation, participation rates of eligible populations, and dollar amounts distributed to households.

Regarding WIC, it is noteworthy also that several neighborhood stores with state contracts to accept WIC are not fully complying with state rules that require them to offer fresh fruits and vegetables (according to new federal rules that went into effect October 1, 2009).²⁰ Within neighborhoods WIC contracts should be signed preferentially with stores that carry a wider range of food products including fresh fruits and vegetables. A review of WIC-accepting stores in Detroit is necessary to ensure that stores that gain revenues from WIC spending carry all the products required by the program and comply with other rules. It may also be useful to review all other licenses (such as for liquor and lottery) that benefit stores, and the feasibility of linking license approvals with a requirement to offer a range of healthy foods.



Within neighborhoods, WIC contracts should be signed preferentially with stores that carry a wider range of food products including fresh fruits and vegetables.

¹³ American Community Survey, 2009

¹⁴ Source for 2004 data: www.frac.org/pdf/urbanfoodstamps09.pdf. ("SNAP access in urban America: A city-by-city snapshot," September 2009).

¹⁵ Source for 2009 and 2010 data for Wayne County: Jenny Genser of Food and Nutrition Service, US Department of Agriculture, email communication, March 17, 2011. Source for 2009 and 2010 data for Michigan: obtained from several reports obtained from the main SNAP website: www.fns.usda.gov/pd/snapmain.htm

¹⁶ LAI is calculated by dividing the actual SNAP enrollment by the number of people who might qualify for SNAP estimated from an area's poverty statistics. www.frac.org/pdf/urbanfoodstamps09.pdf.

¹⁷ <http://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/ny-times-snap-poverty-formatted.pdf>

¹⁸ Source: www.cnpp.usda.gov/Publications/FoodPlans/2010/CostofFoodJul10.pdf for more details of how the plans are assembled. The Stimulus Bill increment to SNAP benefits brought monthly allocations closer to the Thrifty Food Plan for all categories of households.

Child Nutrition Programs in the Detroit Public School System

In addition to SNAP and WIC, school meals are a significant nutrition program benefiting children from impoverished households. What follows is a summary of nutrition programs in DPS, the largest school system in the city. We were unable to obtain information on nutrition programs offered in Detroit's charter schools and urge DFPC to address this information gap in future years.

Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

Food Services in 2009-10²¹

During FY 2010, nearly 8.5 million total lunch meals, nearly 7.5 million of them free lunches, were served to students. Nearly 7.6 million breakfast meals were served through the academic year.

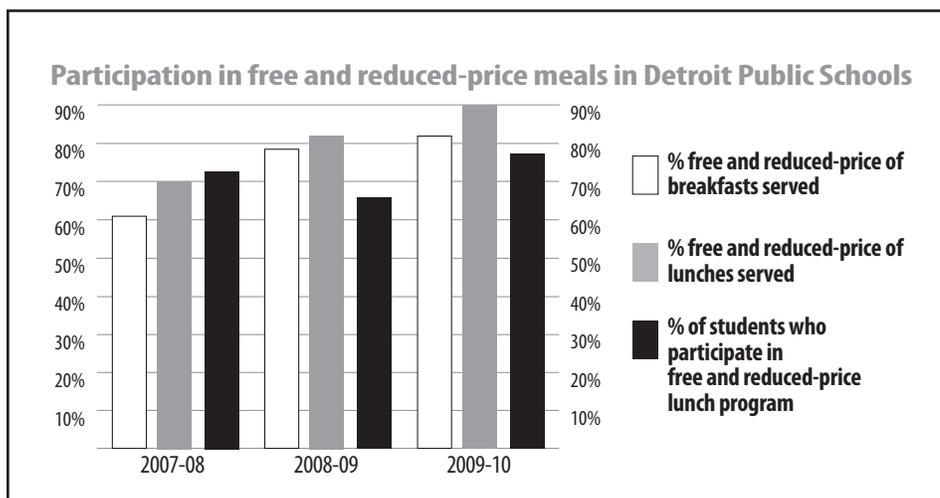
The Office of Food Services in 2009-10 began Breakfast in the Classroom (BIC) for all kindergarten through 8th grade students at no charge to students. Additionally, the Office also provided fresh fruit and vegetables to 11 schools that received a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant, a federal program that provides additional quantities of fruits and vegetables to be distributed at no cost to students at qualifying schools. The office also provided fresh fruit and vegetables to 22 schools that participated in the MI Farm to School program.²²

The Office also served more than 300,000 snacks and a similar number of after-school dinner meals to students participating in district-sponsored programs, in pre-kindergarten and after-school educational programs.

Here are some details that help understand participation rates in DPS-sponsored nutrition programs. In the month of October 2009, a total of 1,049,092 lunches were served in Detroit Public School cafeterias, nearly 90 percent of which were free and reduced-price, benefiting more than three quarters of the nearly 86,000 students enrolled in the school system. For the same period, a total of 937,695 breakfasts were served, 82 percent of which were free and reduced-price.

That free and reduced-price meals are such a large portion of meals served in Detroit Public Schools demonstrates that the majority of DPS students who eat a school lunch come from families that struggle to put food on the table. As such, these school meals are crucial for students' ability to learn as well as to support families with smaller food budgets.

Nonetheless, on any given day, fewer than half the number of students who signed up to participate in the



free and reduced-price lunch actually ask for and get the lunch for which they qualify.²³ And only about 44 percent who signed up for the free and reduced breakfast actually participate on any given day. High school students who are enrolled in the free and reduced-price meal program participate at much lower rates. Betti Wiggins, executive director of the Detroit Public School district's Office of Food Services, attributes this to the "lack of coolness" of subsidized meals among high school students as well as curricular schedules that disallow a dedicated lunch period at high schools.

¹⁹ Personal communication, Sharon Quincy, City of Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion, January 7, 2011.

²⁰ For example, Detroit FRESH staff discovered several WIC-accepting stores with no fresh fruits and vegetables available. Detroit FRESH—the healthy corner store program—seeks to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables by working with corner stores located in underserved neighborhoods. Although the effort did not systematically assess all WIC-accepting stores, operators accepting WIC benefits typically claimed that shoppers shunned fruits and vegetables resulting in unnecessary costs and waste for the store. WIC licenses are granted by zip code in order to ensure that all neighborhoods have access to WIC-authorized products such as powdered milk, canned beans, fruits and vegetables, cereal, etc. However, Detroit FRESH found liquor stores within short walking distances (say, one block) of another store with better food options.

²¹ Source: DPS 2010 Annual Comprehensive Report, page xv, <http://detroitk12.org/data/finance/docs/2010-Comprehensive-Annual-Financial-Report.pdf>

²² Since then, a few schools that participated in Farm to School were closed down as part of the citywide school consolidation and closures.

Betti Wiggins Knows it Takes More Than Books for Detroit Public Schools Students to Learn

Excerpted from a profile that appeared on March 7, 2011 by Meredith Modzelewski at School Food Focus.²⁴

“Kids will know better if we show them better.” This simple philosophy directs how Betti Wiggins, Executive Director, Office of Food Services at Detroit Public Schools (DPS), approaches her work every day. How does she show them better? Through school gardens for students, farm-to-school programs that feature fresh produce from the region, improving nutritional standards across the board, the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), and lots more.

She and her colleagues spearheaded DPS implementation of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) standards long before they became what are now the proposed federal regulations. All breads are whole grain; vegetables are fresh or frozen, not canned; three fresh vegetables and one non-meat entree are served every week. DPS serves no fried food whatsoever and has reduced the size of desserts in the a la carte line. It has removed artificially flavored sweet drinks and serves only 12 oz. portions of 100% juice; lunchrooms offer 8 oz. bottles of water, which have proven popular with kids. The list goes on.

“Though we haven’t yet completely transformed school meals, we are making lots of changes. We’re working hard on it,” explains Wiggins. “Since we’re self-operated, the money we might pay in management fees to outside contractors we actually get to save and put it into our food. We want to ensure DPS is doing everything we can to impact the health of our children in a positive way and support academic achievement.”

It wasn’t always this way, however. For eight years, DPS used a contract food service management company. Employees made a counter-proposal to the Board of Education, making a commitment to feed kids better. The Board awarded employees self-operator status after reviewing their plan. Wiggins stresses, “We have to be involved in actions that improve the health and well-being of the community—that’s the commitment we made.”

The DPS farm-to-school program is also well underway. On March 17, 43 schools in DPS served Michigan-grown potatoes on the same day. In April, delicious Michigan apples were served, and in May fresh green asparagus from Michigan farms will grace the trays of DPS students.²⁵

Wiggins is also delighted about the success of the DPS breakfast program. High schools across the district serve this all-important first meal of the day, incorporating at least two fresh fruits each week and sticking to whole grain and oat bran cereals at breakfast time, rather than sugary cereals that are high in sweeteners and low in nutrition. Some of the schools even serve universal free breakfasts: one school serves 750 each morning, putting meals directly into the hands of students in their homerooms every day and setting them up for a productive day of learning.

The Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program has also made big strides in getting more kids in Detroit to eat (fresh foods of diverse) colors. Served in the classroom, this free snack in 16 DPS schools features delicious whole foods like apples, oranges, cantaloupe, grapes, carrots, and zucchini. Kids look forward to their fruit or vegetable snack immensely, says Wiggins.

One third of Detroit schools have greenhouses, and some DPS schools have their own urban gardens, so there’s plenty of room for student gardening activities that foster both nutritional education and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). The G2 Good Gardens program is designed to advance all of these through greenhouses and gardens.²⁶



School lunch: Veggie burger served with regionally sourced produce.



Photo: Cheryl Simon

²³ October 2009 had 22 school days. While 85,895 students were enrolled in the DPS system, the number of those who had free and reduced meal applications filed was 66,315, or 77 percent of the overall student body. Assuming that the month of October is a representative month of the school year, participation rates per day amount to 55 percent for all types of meals, and 49 percent for the free and reduced-price meals.

²⁴ Source: www.schoolfoodfocus.org/?p=1143

²⁵ To learn more, read blog by Michaëlle Rehmann at the Detroit Food and Fitness Collaborative website: <http://detroitfoodandfitness.com/dffc/farm-to-school-benefits-all-involved/>

²⁶ Click here for more information: <http://detroitfoodandfitness.com/dffc/detroit-public-schools-go-green-with-g2-good-gardens/>

Summer Food Service Program, Wayne County, 2010

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) provides free snacks and meals to children during school vacations. It uses income eligibility standards and meal patterns similar to those used in other federal child nutrition programs, such as school lunches and breakfasts. The SFSP is operated at the local level by program sponsors and is administered in Michigan by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Grants Coordination and School Support office.

Participation rates of Detroit children and youth in the SFSP are dismally low. Fewer than five percent of eligible children participated in this program in 2010, suggesting added burdens for their families during summer, when school is out. The accompanying table shows the main sponsors in Detroit that served meals under the SFSP for 49 days in 2010, the number of sites they sponsored, the meals and snacks they provided, as well as the dollar amounts of the reimbursements they received in FY 2010.²⁷ The DFPC should review the reasons for low participation and support a campaign to increase access to summer food benefits to area children.

FY 2010 Sponsor	Number of sites	Breakfast	Lunch	Supper	Snacks	Reimbursement
Detroit Public Schools	1	3,668	4,413	3,669	0	\$33,023
City of Detroit DHWP	208	54,911	201,994	0	0	\$758,895
Gleaners Community Food Bank	21	0	19,227	0	0	\$63,687
Wayne County Total²⁸	347	99,663	402,374	6,910	13,634	\$1,523,982

Child and Adult Care Food Program

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides federal funds to nonresidential child care facilities to serve nutritious meals and snacks. The CACFP plays a vital role in improving the quality of child care and making it affordable for many families requiring child care. The goal of the CACFP is to improve and maintain the health and nutritional status of children in care while promoting the development of good eating habits. In addition to the after-school snacks and hot meals provided by DPS (reported above), the City of Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion also sponsors meals under the CACFP and the SFSP.

In FY 2010, the DHWP served (through project sponsors) more than 4,000 meals per day for the program's 180 days under the CACFP to a similar number of children.²⁹ The DFPC is urged to gather systematic information on the CACFP in terms of participation, rates of participation of eligible people, and dollar amounts in future years.

The Charitable Food Assistance Sector

In addition to buying food with cash and/or relying on government nutrition programs such as SNAP or free and reduced-price school meals, many Detroit households also depend on neighborhood-based food pantries, soup kitchens, and related sites to meet their food needs. The Gleaners Community Food Bank plays an important role as a distributor of food to these sites in Detroit.

In 2010 Gleaners distributed nearly 18 million pounds of groceries to 300 such outlets in Detroit. Food pantries operated by neighborhood and social service organizations and on-site distribution at Gleaners were the destination for the vast majority of the food, receiving nearly 13.5 million pounds in 2010. Soup kitchens, homeless shelters, halfway houses, and other types of group homes, and social service programs made up

²⁷ www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Reimbursement_by_county_11-24-2010_345357_7.pdf

²⁸ Some smaller sponsors, mostly religious institutions, operate sites all over Wayne County, including Detroit; they have been excluded from the listing of Detroit-based sponsors given their relatively smaller scale of operation.

²⁹ Source: Sharon Quincy, City of Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion, January 7, 2011.

another 3.4 million pounds. Sites with children (child care, schools, and activities that gave food to school kids to take home) received more than 700,000 pounds. Finally, client choice pantry, a delivery format that resembles a grocery store in which participants walk through aisles of shelves to choose foods they need, obtained nearly 400,000 pounds of food in 2010.

Gleaners obtains this food from a variety of sources, including federal programs such as The Emergency Food Assistance Program, or TEFAP, through which USDA distributes food commodities such as cheese, butter, peanut butter, and pasta. Nearly 3 million pounds were distributed from this source in 2009. Gleaners also distributes food purchased from the Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA): 526,000 pounds were distributed from this source in 2009; in 2009 it received money under the Federal Stimulus through which they distributed nearly 265,000 additional pounds of food.



Photo: Earthworks Urban Farm

A harvest dinner at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

State and Federal Laws that Affect Detroit's Food Economy

In addition to understanding the activities of the local food economy, it is also important to know how recent or proposed legislation affects our community's links to this economy as well as allows or disallows the development of an alternative food system. What follows is a discussion of a handful of laws that were enacted recently, or affect new community initiatives. A brief discussion of policy organizing for the 2012 Farm Bill reauthorization is also included in this section.

Michigan Public Act 231 of 2008, an Amendment to the Commercial Rehabilitation Act to Include Food Retail Establishments

Public Act 231 of 2008 amended MCL 207.842 and 207.848 to allow new, expanding and improved food retail establishments in underserved areas to take advantage of the property tax incentive provided by the act. It was made effective July 17, 2008.

This bill was sponsored by Senator Mark Jansen in response to a finding in the Michigan Food Policy Council's October 2006 Report of Recommendations that research has shown that lack of healthy food access in urban neighborhoods is linked to an above-average prevalence of chronic health issues and related deaths.³⁰

Public Act 231 includes a retail supermarket, grocery store, produce market, or delicatessen in an underserved area as a "qualified facility" for purposes of the act. The owner of the qualified facility may apply for a commercial rehabilitation exemption certificate within 6 months of starting work which, if granted, exempts the property from an increase in property taxes associated with any new investment, including new construction or major renovations, modifications and other physical changes required to "restore or change the property to an economically efficient condition." The qualified food retail establishment must be located in an underserved area as determined by the Michigan Department of Agriculture per the requirements of the statute: (1) A low- or moderate-income census tract and a below-average supermarket density, (2) an area that has a supermarket customer base with more than 50% living in a low-income census tract, or (3) an area that has demonstrated significant access limitations due to travel distance.

³⁰ The summary and full report are available at: www.michigan.gov/mfpc/0,1607,7-228--151980--,00.html (accessed: March 24, 2011).



A large portion of the food distributed by food emergency assistance programs is taxpayer-funded.



In Detroit—where poverty, hunger, unemployment, low family income, malnutrition, neighborhood blight and vacant land are major challenges—urban farming can make a difference. But farms, even small ones, can pose neighborhood risks if they are not controlled properly for noise, odors, vermin, insects, pesticides, wastes and increased traffic.

For more information on the act and qualifying areas:

www.michigan.gov/taxes/0,1607,7-238-43535_53197-216846--,00.html

www.michigan.gov/mda/0,1607,7-125--220744--,00.html

To date, it does not appear that any grocery store or other food retail establishment has taken advantage of the tax abatement. In Detroit, several applications were filed in 2008 but stalled because of the City of Detroit's Living Wage Ordinance. Because retailers have not traditionally benefited from tax abatements, they were not subject to the wage requirements of the Living Wage ordinance, intended for manufacturing and construction jobs. Retailers could not meet these requirements. However, in 2010 the City's Living Wage Ordinance was struck down by the Michigan State Supreme Court.

It is anticipated that several Detroit grocers will apply for the tax abatement in order to make their improvement and expansion projects feasible. If this tax abatement can be effectively used in the city, it can be a useful tool as part of a larger tool box to help incentivize the development of food retail. The Detroit Food Policy Council can be an effective ally in advocating to the state for the broadest definition possible of "underserved" or, at least, flexibility in interpretation.

The Michigan Cottage Food Law (Amendment to Michigan Food Law, Act 92 of 2000)

The Michigan Cottage Food Law, enacted in 2010, allows individuals to manufacture and store certain types of foods intended for sale in an unlicensed home kitchen. This law is a boon to small producers who in the past had to make their product in a certified kitchen and obtain special licensing. Under the new law home producers can sell their product directly to consumers at farmers' markets, farm stands, roadside stands and other similar venues. As Cottage Food Operators, producers are responsible to assure their food is safe through best food handling and sanitation practices. In the event that a complaint filed of a food-borne illness is linked to food sold by a producer, the Michigan Department of Agriculture will investigate. The products allowed to be sold under this law must be non-potentially hazardous foods that do not require time and/or temperature control for safety. Examples of allowed products include: baked goods (such as cakes and cookies), jams, jellies, dry products (such as dehydrated fruit and herbs), popcorn, etc. Products such as canned vegetables, pickles and salsas are not allowed.

There are guidelines for items that fall under the 'allowable' list but currently there is no comprehensive list of what is allowed or disallowed. Under the law, cottage food producers may not exceed \$15,000 in gross sales from their cottage food product. The product must have a label that indicates that it is "Made in a home kitchen not inspected by the Michigan Department of Agriculture," and lists ingredients in descending order of predominance by weight, identifies the net weight of the product, and lists potential allergens, for example, wheat, peanuts, or other nuts. Producers interested in selling items not allowed under the Michigan Cottage Food Law must acquire proper licensing from local municipalities and must produce their product in a certified commercial kitchen inspected by the MDA.

The Michigan Cottage Food Law is an amendment to the Michigan Food Law (Act 92 of 2000), and can be found in Sections 289.1105 [Definitions: H, I, and K (i)(ii)] and 289.4102 [Licensing]. The DFPC should take steps to gain greater clarification of allowed and disallowed items under the law, and educate the community about its implications for local food business development.

Change in Monthly Distribution of SNAP Benefits Started in 2011

In 2010, the Michigan Department of Agriculture made a change to the schedule of monthly distribution of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly called the Food Stamp Program) benefits to participants. The change went into effect January 1, 2011.

Every month about 175,000 Detroiters rely on SNAP benefits to feed themselves and their families. Food assistance benefits are distributed electronically once a month to each Bridge Card holder's account. Previously, the monies arrived in a participant's account between the 3rd and the 10th of the month. Starting January 2011, most Bridge card users have seen changes in the dates when they receive their benefits; in fact,

most will see several changes between January and November 2011, when the changeover will be complete. By the end of the process, benefits will be distributed over the course of 19 days each month, from the 3rd through the 21st.

Issuance dates are being moved forward by one day per month for groups of clients over the course of the 11-month period. Depending on what the last digit of the Bridge Card user's recipient identification number is, the user may see no change (if the number ends in 0) or the user may see a 10-day change (if the number ends in 9). The Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) will move forward the issuance dates one day per month until the process is complete.³¹

It is expected that spreading out the dates when food assistance dollars are issued will enable grocers to maintain an adequate and consistent produce inventory, provide more regular work schedules to employees, and encourage SNAP users to include more fresh foods in diets. DFPC should document SNAP-receiving households' experience with the transition and with food shopping following the changeover.

Michigan Right to Farm Act Hamstrings Urban Agriculture Policy Development in Cities

The opinion that follows is authored by John Mogk, Professor of Law, Wayne State University. Originally titled, "Farms next to neighborhoods pose special problems only cities can address," the opinion was published by the *Detroit Free Press* on March 3, 2011.

Michigan's Right to Farm Act stands in the way of Detroit and other cities promoting urban agriculture. The act prohibits cities from enforcing local zoning ordinances to protect neighborhood residents from problems created by commercial farms.

In Detroit—where poverty, hunger, unemployment, low family income, malnutrition, neighborhood blight and vacant land are major challenges—urban farming can make a difference. But farms, even small ones, can pose neighborhood risks if they are not controlled properly for noise, odors, vermin, insects, pesticides, wastes and increased traffic.

Michigan cities are authorized to regulate all other residential, commercial and industrial businesses within their boundaries. Farming is the only exception and needs to be included.

How did this happen?

The Michigan Right to Farm Act was adopted in 1981 to protect farms from sprawling subdivisions gobbling up valuable farmland. At the time, new suburbanites in outlying areas were bringing suits against neighboring family farms for nuisance, thereby threatening these farms.

The act protects farmers by banning these suits if their farms comply with Michigan Commission of Agriculture standards, known as Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices, (GAAMPs), or the farm didn't constitute a nuisance when the adjacent land was undeveloped.

In 2000, however, Michigan went further and banned city zoning of commercial farms, regardless of where they are located. This was an extraordinary intrusion into local governance, contrary to the "home rule"



Photo: Kami Potluri Kuchi, SEED Wayne, Wayne State University

³¹ A DHS chart that shows all the scheduled date changes is available online at www.mibridges.michigan.gov/access.



The state Legislature needs to exempt Detroit from the Michigan Right to Farm Act or exclude all zoning in Michigan cities applied to new commercial gardens and farms within city limits, so that locally controlled agriculture can flourish in the interest of urban revitalization.

tradition of Michigan. The idea remained to protect those old family farms in areas where outlying suburbs had effectively become new cities, but the amended act has far broader consequences, because it can apply to all urban areas.

Under the act, the “commercial production of farm products” within Detroit cannot be regulated by Detroit city zoning to protect neighborhood residents. It is regulated, instead, by GAAMP standards of the Commission, which are designed to protect farms against suits by neighbors.

Cities may request a modification of GAAMP standards, but granting it is solely within the Commission’s discretion. It may only grant exceptions for adverse effects on the environment or public health, but not for odor, noise, appearances, reduced property values and land use conflicts.

Proponents argue improbably that the Commission can prepare an “urban GAAMP” to address city concerns. This begs the question of whose interests will prevail when farming operations move to the city and conflict with city residents. In a rural setting, the act appropriately prefers farmers. In urban areas, it is unlikely that the pro-farming Commission will protect city residents first.

Detroit’s mayor and City Council were not elected to relinquish control of the city’s neighborhoods. The state Legislature needs to exempt Detroit from the Michigan Right to Farm Act or exclude all zoning in Michigan cities applied to new commercial gardens and farms within city limits, so that locally controlled agriculture can flourish in the interest of urban revitalization.

The Child Nutrition Reauthorization (Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010)



Photo: Cheryl Simon

More than three out of four students in Detroit Public Schools (and likely a similar proportion of students in local charter schools) eat a free or reduced-price lunch at school; many get a free breakfast in the classroom, and some even take supper at school.

The School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program are permanently funded by the federal government. However, The Child Nutrition Act, which helps fund programs such as the Summer Food Service Program and Child and Adult Care Food Program, among others, must be renewed every five years. The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, also known as the Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR), was signed into law on December 13, 2010.

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act takes several steps forward to ensure that low-income children can participate in nutrition programs and receive the

meals they need. For Michigan, the following highlights are especially relevant:³²

- Support for strategies to reduce red tape in helping children obtain school meals.
- Grants to establish or expand school breakfast programs, with priority going to schools with 75 percent free and reduced-price eligible students.
- \$5 million annually in mandatory funding for farm-to-school programs starting October 1, 2012.
- Support for actions to allow more community sites and encourage greater SFSP participation, including by requiring school food authorities to coordinate with Summer Food sponsors on developing and distributing Summer Food outreach materials.
- State WIC agencies now have the option to certify children for up to one year (In Michigan, children are certified for 6 months requiring more frequent visits to WIC clinics for certification).

- Improvement of area eligibility rules so more family child care homes can use the CACFP program.
- Enhancement of nutritional quality of food served in school-based and preschool settings by, among other things, ensuring that water is available free of charge during meal service; allowing only lower-fat options to be served; and requiring schools to provide opportunities for public input, transparency, and an implementation plan in Local School Wellness Policies.
- Making “competitive foods” offered or sold in schools more nutritious.
- Requiring agreements with states to make clear the expectation that the federal funds provided to operate the Child Nutrition Programs (CNR) be fully utilized for that purpose and that such funds be excluded from state budget restrictions or limitations, including hiring freezes, work furloughs and travel restrictions.



Photo: Cheryl Simon

Although only 10 percent of lunches served in the DPS are of the “paid” kind, it is of special concern that the CNR also requires school districts to gradually increase their “paid” lunch charges until the revenue per lunch matches the federal free reimbursement level. Another concern relates to the cuts in SNAP funding to finance some improvements under CNR; read below for details.

SNAP Benefit Cuts Coming

Recent cuts to SNAP benefits have occurred as a way to “pay for” added expenditures in other programs.³³ We believe that there are better ways to fund the nation’s priorities than by cutting benefits for the hungriest people in the country.

In August 2010, Congress passed the “FMAP” Act (technically, the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage bill, with amendments), which includes aid to states and funding for teachers’ salaries and FMAP (Medicaid). This Act reduces SNAP benefits to generate \$11.9 billion to pay for items added to the bill. It does that by ending the Stimulus Bill’s increased SNAP monthly benefits in April 2014.

Another cut to SNAP benefits was included in the Child Nutrition Reauthorization passed in December 2010. This moves the SNAP benefits increase termination date forward to November 2013. The passage of the Act was accompanied, however, by the commitment of the President to work with Congressional leaders to fix the SNAP cuts included to pay for some of the child nutrition improvements.

The Farm Bill: 2008 Highlights and 2012 Prospects

The five-year, \$289 billion US farm bill expanded public nutrition, land stewardship and biofuels programs by a combined \$15.6 billion over 10 years. Highlights include the following:

- Increasing public nutrition programs by \$10.3 billion over 10 years, including \$7.9 billion for SNAP, \$1.25 billion for donations to food banks through The Emergency Food Assistance Program and \$1.05 billion for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (which provides school snacks). Some people saw increases in SNAP benefits due to changes in eligibility criteria.
- Denying supports to people with more than \$500,000 adjusted gross income and denying “direct” payments to people with more than \$750,000 in farm income, and restricting eligibility for land stewardship payments for people above \$1 million in adjusted gross income.



Recent cuts to SNAP benefits have occurred as a way to “pay for” added expenditures in other programs. Due to these cuts, the SNAP benefits increase will terminate in 2013, two years earlier than originally scheduled.

³² This section is excerpted from FRAC’s website: <http://frac.org/highlights-healthy-hunger-free-kids-act-of-2010/>

³³ Source: <http://frac.org/leg-act-center/updates-on-snapfood-stamp-cuts/>



The top three priorities emerging from [Farm Bill listening] sessions were developing local food infrastructure, linking SNAP to local and healthy foods, and increasing healthy food access in underserved areas.

- Increasing subsidy rates for wheat, soybeans and some smaller-acreage crops.
- Creating new funding for specialty crops (including fruits and vegetables) of \$1.3 billion over 10 years, and expanding the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program by \$466 million over 10 years to incentivize production and marketing of fruits, vegetables, nuts, and nursery crops.

2012 Farm Bill Reauthorization Organizing Update

Between October 2010 and March 2011, the Community Food Security Coalition organized a series of Farm Bill listening sessions involving more than 700 people and 18 partner organizations across the country. In addition to conducting a webinar,³⁴ in-person listening sessions were held in 11 cities across the country.

The top three priorities emerging from these sessions were developing local food infrastructure, linking SNAP to local and healthy foods, and increasing healthy food access in underserved areas. Additionally, supporting urban/community-based agriculture, community food projects, and beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers were selected as priorities in three or more sessions.

Specifically, increasing SNAP benefits remains a focus for anti-hunger and anti-poverty advocates engaged in these dialogues. Other issues that were a top priority in at least one session included addressing corporate concentration, commodity reform, and social justice for farmers, ranchers, food system workers and consumers.

Actions Needed

The DFPC should:

- Continue to track the local food economy, including current capacity for agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale, and retail, and potential for expansion in each sector, and assemble qualitative information on the nature of jobs, wages and work conditions, opportunities for career advancement, and entrepreneurship development, with special attention to opportunities for local residents and people of color.
- Assess full-service grocery stores for the extent to which they serve the community through ongoing access to healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate foods, and also for factors that support and challenge them. Work to ensure that stores that accept WIC benefits comply with state rules, especially carrying fresh fruits and vegetables as required.
- Support programs that seek to increase access to healthy foods in neighborhoods through grocery stores as well as non-traditional channels such as farm stands, corner stores, and food cooperatives and buying clubs. Explore the possibility of developing incentive programs tied to licensing approvals that lead to increased store offerings of fresh and healthy foods.
- Survey local food system entities (manufacturers, wholesale and retail distributors, and stores of different types and scales of operation), and institutions and households for food system components of their waste streams. Assess the feasibility of diversion from this waste stream to composting and recycling programs.
- Work to obtain up-to-date information for all major federal nutrition programs on the extent of participation by Detroit residents, rates of participation, and dollar value of benefits. Identify and collaborate with appropriate community partners to increase participation in all nutrition programs for which Detroiters qualify, such as SNAP, WIC, free and reduced-price school lunches and breakfasts, and other child nutrition programs.
- Continue to build synergies between community-based efforts and those led by educational and health institutions related to local food and agricultural systems. Leverage existing nutrition program funding to create benefits for local food systems, such as through farm-to-school programs and the Double Up Food Bucks.

³⁴ <http://foodsecurity.org/policy.html#materials>. To participate in these and related policy discussions, you may subscribe to COMFOOD, Community Food Security Coalition's listserv by browsing www.foodsecurity.org.

Section 4:

The Alternative Food System: Innovative Community Food Programs



Photo: Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market

DETROIT IS HOME TO A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES to create a sustainable and just food system and repair the gaps in the conventional food system. Initiatives range from urban agriculture networks of different kinds that train young people and adults to grow and sell food within neighborhoods; efforts to increase the number of neighborhood-based full-service food stores and farmers' markets; dialogues to engage community members in conversations about racism in the food system and how to undo it; to work groups engaged in community-based food planning and policy development. They involve many stakeholders from all sectors of the community—private, nonprofit, and public, and represent many fields such as education, health, economy, real estate, and others—in complex and ever-widening webs of partnerships.

What follows is an initial attempt to provide a systematic account of these initiatives. Of course, it falls short of being a comprehensive report or even a complete one for the initiatives identified. There are many reasons for this. First, a decision had to be made about the cut-off date for new initiatives to be listed. Since



Detroit is home to a number of community-based initiatives to create a sustainable and just food system and repair the gaps in the conventional food system.



Photo: JimWestPhoto.com

High school students work in a garden at the Catherine Ferguson Academy, a Detroit public school.

the baseline year is 2009, programs that were up and running in 2009 are included, although specific data for 2010 for these programs are included wherever available. Second, programs were sought to be included in two key categories: one, those that increase access to fresh and healthy foods (especially locally produced) in low-income neighborhoods, and two, those that link food system activities—such as production, distribution, retail, etc.—with key community goals—such as education, health, employment and entrepreneurship, economic vitality, etc. More information was available about the first part than about the second and the following table reflects this disparity. Last, all information provided here is based on self-reports by leaders of initiatives. No attempt was made to verify the data provided. Getting even this information was not without challenges because some organizations do not themselves systematically collect and keep data of interest to this report or have been unable to share information in time for publication.

Hence this first report should be seen more as a first cut at documenting the work to repair the city's food system and build a more just and sustainable one, rather than as a comprehensive compilation of efforts or their assessment.



More support and coordination is needed for... the development of an urban agriculture policy for Detroit and a response to proposed school closures so that school-based gardens and farm-to-school programs and other related activities continue to benefit neighborhoods.

Actions Needed

Programs of the kind reported here need to be documented more systematically and comprehensively so as to develop baseline levels so that future growth of the community-based food system can be tracked, and successes and challenges acted on. The DFPC should take the lead in devising templates to assist organizations to easily collect and share data of interest to community and policy audiences.

More support and coordination is needed for efforts that have experienced challenges over the last couple of years. These include, for example, the development of an urban agriculture policy for Detroit and a response to proposed school closures so that school-based gardens and farm-to-school programs and continue to benefit neighborhoods.



Photo: Kami Pothukuchi, SEED Wayne, WSU

Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Geography and Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
Urban Agriculture Initiatives		
<p>Garden Resource Program Collaborative, Greening of Detroit (lead organization), 2003</p> <p>Detroit Contact: Lindsay Turpin lindsay_detroitagriculture@yahoo.com www.detroitagriculture.org</p>	<p>Detroit, Hamtramck, Highland Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backyard gardeners • School gardens and nutrition programs • Community gardens and neighborhood networks • Market gardeners/farmers 	<p>The Garden Resource Program Collaborative (GRPC), in which The Greening of Detroit is a lead partner, provides support for urban gardens and farms in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. The other partners are Earthworks Urban Farm, Michigan State University Extension, and the Detroit Agriculture Network.</p> <p>In 2010:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,035 adults and 10,422 youth participated in 1,234 vegetable gardens; • Gardeners grew 73 varieties of fruits and vegetables (over 160 tons) in 328 community, 39 market, 63 school and 804 family gardens; • The Detroit Urban Garden Education Series offered 55 workshops. 796 adults attended classes on topics including basic gardening, cooking, season extension and food preservation.
<p>D-Town Farm, Detroit Black Community Food Security Network (DBCFSN), 2007</p> <p>Contact: Malik Yakini myakini@aol.com detroitblackfoodsecurity.org</p>	<p>Detroit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of DBCFSN, volunteers 	<p>The 2-acre farm (with a proposed expansion to a total of 7 acres) is located in Rouge Park on the city's west side. The farm produces a variety of vegetables, herbs, flowers, and also mushrooms, berries and honey.</p> <p>Produce from the D-Town farm is sold at several farmers markets, including Eastern Market and the Wayne State University Farmers Market.</p> <p>D-Town Farm also involves youth in urban agriculture and social justice activities (see also Workforce Development section, page 65).</p>
<p>Earthworks Urban Farm, Capuchin Soup Kitchen (CSK), 1998</p> <p>Contact: Patrick Crouch mrcrouch@cskdetroit.org www.cskdetroit.org/EWG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastside • Detroit region • Residents of near-east-side neighborhood around CSK • Gardeners participating in GRPC • Regional participants with interests in food security and sustainable and just food systems 	<p>In 2010, Earthworks Urban Farm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced more than 7,000 pounds of food on 7 sites totaling more than 2 acres, primarily for the Capuchin Soup Kitchen; • Produced transplants for the Garden Resource Program Collaborative; • Offered training workshops in basic and advanced urban agriculture—graduated 8 interns from entrepreneurial Earthworks Agricultural Training or EAT program; • Involved 15 youth in Growing Healthy Kids (involving youth, ages 5-11); • Involved 12 youth participating in the Youth Farm Stand Project (ages 12-17); • Involved more than 6,000 volunteer hours in activities; • Composted more than 300,000 lbs of wastes, thereby diverting them from landfills or the incinerator.
<p>Urban Farming, 2004</p> <p>Contact: Gail Carr gc@urbanfarming.org www.urbanfarming.org</p>	<p>Metro Detroit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents, students, adults, seniors and families including those who are at risk or suffer from food insecurity 	<p>In 2010, in metro Detroit, Urban Farming planted and facilitated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An equivalent of 1,255 gardens including: 1,061 community gardens and educational and entrepreneurial gardens at partner sites, based on a 20' by 20' garden size, covering 9.74 acres on 42 sites, and 194 residential gardens; • Involved 15,748 youth volunteers and 4,430 adult and senior volunteers; • Donated approximately 104.4 tons to feed an estimated 208,800 people.

Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Geography and Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
Urban Agriculture Initiatives		
Georgia Street Community Collective, 2008 Contact: Mark Covington Cub5578@yahoo.com (313) 452-0684 georgiastreetgarden.blogspot.com	Detroit's Eastside	The Georgia Street Community Collective promotes the health of neighborhood residents and the neighborhood as a whole, with particular emphasis on developing related youth leadership, by maintaining the Georgia Street Community Garden and the Georgia Street Community Center/Library. GSCC operates 3 community gardens with volunteers and more than 35 youth from the neighborhood. Harvests are shared with community members.
SEED Wayne/ WSU Gardens, 2008 Contact: Kami Pothukuchi k.pothukuchi@wayne.edu www.clas.wayne.edu/seedwayne	WSU Campus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSU students, employees, alumni/ae 	3 campus gardens with aggregate production area of approx. 1,224 square feet, including season extension, involving 30 students and 3 staff members. More than 200 pounds were donated to food assistance programs in 2010.
Urban Agriculture Community Outreach and Networking		
Detroit Agriculture Network (DAN), 1997 Contact: Ashley Atkinson aatkinso@umich.edu	Detroit, Highland Park & Hamtramck	DAN is a key partner of the Garden Resource Program Collaborative. It hosts annual citywide urban agriculture outreach events, including the Detroit Urban Garden and Farm Tour, annual GRP planning meeting, and GRP Summer Fest. It publishes quarterly newsletter, <i>Detroit Farmers' Quarterly</i> In 2010, approximately 600 participants attended the Detroit Urban Garden and Farm Tour.
Great Lakes Bioneers Detroit (GLBD), 2005 Contact: Gloria Rivera, IHM info@glbd.org www.glbd.org	Southeastern Michigan	GLBD promotes collaboration and networking among SE Michigan individuals and organizations working on sustainability and eco-justice issues, including urban agriculture. Each year in October GLBD organizes a conference with workshops led by community-based experts in conjunction with the national Bioneers conference, through which they feature national plenary speakers. Community food justice and urban agriculture issues are regular features of this conference. GLBD also offers additional programs and/or collaborates with others in their programming efforts throughout the year.
See also entries related to The Greening of Detroit, Urban Farming, Detroit Black Community Food Security Network		
Community Food Retail		
Green Grocer Project, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, 2010 Contact: Sarah Fleming sfleming@degc.org www.greengrocerproject.com	City of Detroit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-service grocery stores, including existing and proposed stores. 	The Green Grocer Project provides three key areas of assistance to Detroit's grocery community: 1) Technical assistance to address operational issues including: product handling and management, merchandising, marketing, store design, supplier relations, market intelligence, energy efficiency, accounting and bookkeeping, and customer service; 2) Grocer clearinghouse services to expedite permit application review and connect grocers to financial and operational resources; 3) Financing program designed to provide low-interest, flexible loans not available from traditional lenders. As of December 2010, \$90,000 in grants were awarded to three Detroit grocers, including one new grocery business.

Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Geography and Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
Regional and Neighborhood Farmers' Markets and Mobile Markets¹		
<p>Eastern Market (Saturday retail market), founded early 1900s.</p> <p>Contact: Dan Carmody dcarmody@detroiteasternmarket.com www.detroiteasternmarket.com</p>	<p>Detroit metro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food shoppers • Regional farmers and food dealers 	<p>In 2010, Eastern Market averaged a total of 1,022,000 customers with seasonal attendance shown below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35,000 customers avg. each Saturday, or 665,000 total during peak season (May 1 through Labor Day); • 13,000 customers avg. each Saturday, or 273,000 total during shoulder seasons (Labor Day through Christmas; April); • 7,000 customers avg. each Saturday, or 84,000 total during off season (January through March). <p>Estimated total sales: \$78,000,000</p>
<p>Wayne State University Farmers Market, SEED Wayne, 2008</p> <p>Contact: Kami Pothukuchi k.pothukuchi@wayne.edu www.clas.wayne.edu/seedwayne</p> <p>Wednesdays, 11 AM-4 PM Second week of June through last week of October, 5201 Cass Ave.</p>	<p>WSU Campus, Midtown</p>	<p>In 2010, the market's full second year featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 vendors; • 1,000 customers weekly; • Estimated sales: over \$250,000; • SNAP Sales: \$9,947 (\$5,032 in 2009). <p>(In 2009-10, SEED Wayne also offered a Thursday market at the WSU School of Medicine)</p>
<p>Northwest Detroit Farmers Market, Grandmont Rosedale Dev. Corp., 2006</p> <p>Contact: Pam Weinstein pweinstein@grdc.org www.grdc.org/id36.html</p> <p>Thursdays 4-8 PM June through mid-October</p> <p>South parking lot of Bushnell Congregational Church, 15000 Southfield Service Drive (northbound)</p>	<p>Northwest Detroit: Grandmont Rosedale neighborhood and environs</p>	<p>In 2010, the market featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15-20 vendors; • 300-400 customers weekly; • Estimated sales: \$65,000; • SNAP sales: \$6,430 (\$2,870 in 2009).
<p>Eastern Market Farm Stand Project, Eastern Market Corporation, 2009</p> <p>Contact: Dan Carmody (see Eastern Market above)</p>	<p>Metro Detroit Detroit's Eastside</p>	<p>In 2010 the project featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly and occasional markets at 40 locations <p>Estimated sales: \$20,000.</p>
<p>East Warren Avenue Farmers Market, 2008</p> <p>Contact: Danielle North dnorth@warrenconner.org www.warrenconner.org/warrenconner/?page_id=544</p> <p>Saturdays, 2nd Sat. of July through 1st Sat. of Oct. As of 2011: Mack and Alter in the Mack Alter Square (previously on Warren at Cadieux)</p>	<p>Detroit's Eastside</p>	<p>In 2010, the market featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 vendors; • approx 100 customers; • Estimated sales: \$2000; • SNAP sales: \$434.

¹ See Appendix A, page 67, for a complete list of neighborhood markets

Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Geography and Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
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Regional and Neighborhood Farmers' Markets and Mobile Markets¹

<p>Windmill Market, 2009 Contact: Pam Samuel Psamuels06@yahoo.com Saturdays, 9 AM-2 PM, 15359 Stoepel (Lodge Service Drive, Livernois and Fenkell)</p>	<p>Livernois/Fenkell neighborhood</p>	<p>In 2010, the market featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 market days per week from June through November; • 1-5 vendors weekly; • Estimated weekly sales: \$100-\$200.
<p>Peaches and Greens Mobile Market, Central Detroit Christian Community Development Corporation, 2008 Contact: Lisa Johanon, ljohanon@detcdc.org Year-round store location: 8838 Third Avenue (at Hazelwood) www.centraldetroitchristian.org/Peaches_and_Greens_Market.htm</p>	<p>Central Detroit (I-75 to East, Davison to North, W. Grand Blvd to South, and Dexter to West)</p>	<p>In 2010, the mobile market featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce sourced from Eastern Market district and Produce Terminal wholesale vendors; • Customers: 300-400; • Estimated sales: in summer \$6,000-\$7,000 monthly; in winter \$3,000-4,000 monthly; • SNAP sales: approximately 50 percent of all sales are to SNAP customers.
<p>Up South Produce Truck, 1999 Contact: Jocelyn Harris, (313) 821-2182 http://upsouthfoodsproducetruck.wordpress.com/</p>	<p>Jefferson-Chalmers and River (South of Jefferson) Neighborhoods</p>	<p>In 2010, the mobile market featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple stops approximately 3 days a week; • Estimated weekly sales: \$200; • Estimated weekly SNAP sales: \$150.

Other Food Retail Initiatives (See also workforce/entrepreneurship development below)

<p>Double Up Food Bucks, Fair Food Network, 2009 Contact: Oran Hesterman ohesterman@fairfoodnetwork.org www.fairfoodnetwork.org</p>	<p>Select farmers' markets in Southeastern Michigan and Toledo</p>	<p>Double Up Food Bucks (DUFb) program provides greater access to fresh fruits and vegetables for low-income Michigan families by matching Bridge Card purchases at farmers markets, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$20 per day per card, with DUFb tokens.</p> <p>In 2010, DUFbs were offered at 13 market sites in Detroit, Battle Creek, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti, Michigan, and two sites in Toledo, Ohio. In these markets, \$111,585 in SNAP benefits were matched with \$91,866 in DUFb tokens to buy fresh fruits and vegetables.</p>
<p>Grown in Detroit Cooperative, Greening of Detroit, 2006 Contact: Carmen Regalado carmen@greeningofdetroit.com www.detroitagriculture.org</p>	<p>Detroit, Hamtramck, Highland Park</p>	<p>In 2010, the Grown in Detroit Cooperative consisted of 70 gardens from the city, earned \$52,473 during 79 market days at 5 local farmers' markets and sales to 21 wholesale and retail outlets, and sold fresh fruits and vegetables to approximately 12,000 customers.</p>
<p>Fresh Food Share, Gleaners Community Food Bank (lead organization), 2009 Contact: Alexis Bogdanova-Hanna abogdanovahanna@gcfb.org www.freshfoodshare.org</p>	<p>Detroit</p>	<p>Fresh Food Share is a project of the Green Ribbon Collaborative, a partnership between Gleaners Community Food Bank, Eastern Market Corp., Greening of Detroit, Fair Food Network, and Detroit Economic Growth Corp. Fresh food, purchased at wholesale prices from local farmers, is packed into individual boxes by volunteers and delivered to various community sites where members pick up boxes. Each box contains a variety of fruits and vegetables and a monthly newsletter with recipes and nutrition information.</p> <p>In 2010, the program featured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 998 boxes containing 28,111 pounds of food; • Subsidized boxes: 559 large and 393 small; Unsubsidized: 34 large and 28 small; • Residents of the East Riverfront District pay \$10 for small box or \$17 for large box. All others pay \$14 for small box and \$24 for large.

Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Geography and Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
Other Food Retail Initiatives (See also workforce/entrepreneurship development below)		
Detroit FRESH, The Healthy Corner Store Project, SEED Wayne, 2008 Contact: Kami Pothukuchi k.pothukuchi@wayne.edu www.clas.wayne.edu/detroitfresh	Detroit	Detroit FRESH seeks to improve access to fresh fruits and vegetables in underserved Detroit neighborhoods by increasing the capacity of corner stores to carry produce, connecting them with produce distributors, and conducting neighborhood outreach. As of December 2010, 18 stores participated.
Farm-to-Institution, Farm-to-School and Youth Nutrition Activities		
Healthy Food in Health Care Project, Ecology Center Contact: Hillary Bisnett hillary@ecocenter.org www.ecocenter.org	Metro Detroit	The Healthy Food in Health Care Program is a national campaign of Health Care Without Harm to help interested hospitals shift procurement practices toward more local, sustainably produced foods for their patients and staff. In 2009-10, the Ecology Center focused on three health systems/hospitals reported below. Together, they have more than 6,000 beds, nearly 55,000 staff, and provide 12.3 million meals a year. Progress made in 2009-2010 includes: <p>Henry Ford Health System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System-wide signing of the Health Care Without Harm <i>Healthy Food Pledge</i>; • Changes to food service operations, including tracking of local, sustainable food procurement, currently at a conservative 9%; • A pilot CSA program at the administration building and a traveling farm stand at each hospital in partnership with Eastern Market. <p>Detroit Medical Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System-wide agreement to participate in the Michigan Health & Hospital Association's <i>Michigan Apples in Michigan Hospitals Campaign</i>; • Added recipes to its National Nutrition Month events in support of Balanced Menus. <p>St. John Providence Health System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchases from local growers and vendors of about \$2.3 million annually for produce and dairy products; • Providence Park Hospital serves patients and cafeteria patrons at least one vegetarian menu option during each meal.
Detroit Public Schools, Office of Food Services, 2009-10 Contact: Betti Wiggins bettiwiggins@gmail.com No website available for program	Detroit	In the 2009-10 school year, 22 Detroit public schools participated in the farm-to-school program. DPS sourced produce from D-Town Farm, Todosuick Farms, Jo Luellen and Associates, and others. Due to the need for increased labor for preparing fruits and vegetables, focus has shifted to minimally processed fresh foods in 2010-11. For data on school gardens, see Garden Resource Program Collaborative on page 59.
Catherine Ferguson Academy, (CFA), 1998 Contact: Asenath Andrews 313-596-4766 No website available for program	Detroit	CFA is a Detroit Public High School for pregnant and parenting teenagers that has offered practical agriscience, agribusiness, and home repair courses since 1994. Through these classes, a homeroom project called "Garden Days" and a summer school farm course, all CFA students are involved in the farm. The responsibilities of animal and plant care generate important hands-on lessons for the young parents who attend CFA, and a diversity of farm activities and lessons bring subjects such as math and art out of the classroom and onto the farm. CFA has a fall weekly market at the school and also sells its produce through the Grown in Detroit Cooperative.



Detroit FRESH seeks to improve access to fresh fruits and vegetables in underserved neighborhoods in Detroit.

Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
Farm-to-Institution, Farm-to-School and Youth Nutrition Activities		
<p>Youth Growing Detroit (and other youth-focused nutrition education and gardening programs), Greening of Detroit</p> <p>Contact: Eitan Sussman, eitan@greeningofdetroit.com</p> <p>www.detroitagriculture.org</p>	<p>Detroit</p>	<p>The Greening of Detroit offers youth-focused nutrition education, gardening, and entrepreneurship programs.</p> <p>In 2010, this included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-school education programming and curriculum development with more than 3,100 youth at 67 schools; • Youth Growing Detroit, a food production and entrepreneurship initiative that worked with 111 youth. <p>The Greening of Detroit also offers advanced training and education programs for adults, including Sweet on Detroit beekeeping program, Keep Growing Detroit season extension program, and technical assistance for advanced growers in the city.</p>
Buying Clubs/Food Co-operatives		
<p>Ujamaa Food Co-op, Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, 2008</p> <p>Contact: Malik Yakini, myakini@aol.com</p> <p>detroitblackfoodsecurity.org</p>	<p>Detroit</p>	<p>The Ujamaa Food Co-op Food Buying Club is a program of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network. Members of the club are able to purchase a wide variety of healthy foods, supplements, and household items at discounted prices. Every four weeks, members place orders through their vendor, United Natural Foods. Members can then pick up their orders from the club location at 3800 Puritan.</p>
Food System Workforce/ Entrepreneurship Development		
<p>COLORS Hospitality Opportunities for Workers Institute (CHOW Institute), Restaurant Opportunities Center of Michigan, (ROC-Michigan), 2008</p> <p>Contact: Minsu Longiaru, minsulongiaru@yahoo.com</p> <p>www.rocmichigan.org</p>	<p>Metro Detroit</p>	<p>The program seeks to help restaurants be profitable while promoting opportunities for workers to advance in the restaurant industry. ROC-MI is a partner of the Food Chain Workers Alliance, a coalition of worker-based organizations whose members plant, harvest, process, pack, transport, prepare, serve, and sell food, organizing to improve wages and working conditions for all workers along the food chain. The organization's work includes: public policy, grassroots organizing and leadership development, workforce development, and social enterprise. The COLORS Restaurant will open summer 2011 in downtown Detroit, a worker-owned restaurant that will house the C.H.O.W. job training program during the day as well as serve fresh, affordable, locally sourced cuisine that supports Detroit's growing and thriving urban agriculture movement.</p>
<p>Summer Youth Employment Program at D-Town Farm, Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, 2008</p> <p>Contact: Malik Yakini, myakini@aol.com</p> <p>detroitblackfoodsecurity.org</p>	<p>Detroit</p>	<p>Youth ages 15-23, participate in D-Town Farm to farm, plant, irrigate, weed, harvest, participate at the Wayne State University Farmers Market, and conduct educational tours of the farm. Goals include to educate Detroit youth in farming using sustainable organic methods, and to provide employment opportunities during the summer months. Approximately 10-13 youth participate each year.</p>

Photo: Growtown.org



Photo: Eastern Market Corporation



Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
Food System Workforce/ Entrepreneurship Development		
<p>Entrepreneurial Agricultural Training (EAT) Program, Earthworks Urban Farm, 2009</p> <p>Contact: Patrick Crouch mcrouch@cskdetroit.org www.cskdetroit.org/EWG/</p>	<p>Detroit, with particular emphasis on Eastside residents</p>	<p>Interns are trained in urban agriculture and market gardening, and to provide services to community gardens, build hoop houses, and increase agricultural activities in Detroit. In 2010, the program had eight graduates.</p>
<p>Greening of Detroit Adult and Youth Urban Agriculture Apprenticeship Program, 2006</p> <p>Contact: Devin Foote devinfoote@gmail.com www.detroitagriculture.org</p>	<p>Detroit</p>	<p>Adult apprentices earn a stipend while training for 11 months with The Greening of Detroit's urban agriculture staff. The program emphasizes urban food production and includes community organizing and engagement, food system policy and planning, farm business planning, and garden and nutrition education. Youth apprentices are paid an hourly wage while working on one of the three farm sites operated by The Greening of Detroit.</p>
<p>Serving Hope Program</p> <p>Contact: Dave Theriault dave.theriault@yahoo.com www.facebook.com/pages/The-Sunday-Dinner-Company-Restaurant/140728515957435?sk=info</p>	<p>At-risk youth and returning citizens (aka ex-offenders); clients who are enrolled in the DRMM transitional housing and permanent housing programs</p>	<p>The MPRI-Sunday Dinner Company Restaurant works in collaboration with Goodwill Industries "Flip the Script" program which is a participant in the MPRI-Michigan Prisoners Re-entry Initiative and neighboring Detroit Public Schools and Prevailing CDC.</p> <p>Community activities and goals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage our youth in positive business activities within the food services industry; • Provide a second chance to returning citizens; • Provide food services to Detroit's homeless community; • Business-to-Business collaboration within local food systems; • Promote a positive and uplifting image of Detroit to anyone watching, reading or listening; • Re-build Detroit from within and using grass roots tactics.
<p>Cornerstone Bistro, Highland Park, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, 2010</p> <p>Contact: Karen Love info@drmm.org www.drmm.org/cornerstone-bistro.php</p>	<p>Clients who are enrolled in the DRMM transitional housing and permanent housing programs</p>	<p>Program provides food service and culinary arts training for participants.</p>

Program Name, Year Started; Contact Information	Target Population	Program Details, 2010 Outputs if Available
Food Justice Organizing		
<p>Undoing Racism in the Food System, 2009</p> <p>Contact: Billie Hickey billiehickey@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Interested participants of all races</p>	<p>‘Undoing Racism in the Detroit Food System’ is an informal group that started out of a workshop entitled “Race, Food and Resistance” held at the Great Lakes Bioneers Detroit Conference in October 2009. The group’s goal is to help create food justice and food security in our city, as part of a larger struggle for social justice. Racism, in particular, stands as a major impediment to freedom, justice and equality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group’s leadership consists of nine volunteers who facilitate monthly meetings. • More than 200 people have participated in small and large discussion groups to analyze racism in Detroit’s food system and develop strategies to dismantle it. • A two-day anti-racism training was held in March 2010; report is available from Billie Hickey. • Three Caucasian study groups and an African-American study group and a people of color study group each meet monthly to develop understanding and strategies particular to their groups.
Food Policy Organizing and Development		
<p>Detroit Food and Fitness Collaborative, 2007</p> <p>Contact: Nikita Buckhoy nikita@cityconnectdetroit.org detroitfoodandfitness.com</p>	<p>Detroit</p>	<p>Detroit Food & Fitness Collaborative (DFFC), part of a national initiative funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, is a group of 65 individuals, representing more than 35 organizations, developing ways to ensure that all residents in Detroit—especially the most vulnerable children—have access to affordable, healthy locally grown food, and opportunities to be physically active. Detroit Food & Fitness Collaborative has three work groups, each with a different focus on creating a healthier Detroit. Activities of the work groups support systems and policy change while making immediate and tangible differences in the lives of Detroiters. The Work Groups are The Built Environment/Physical Activity Work Group, The Food Systems Work Group and The Schools Work Group.</p>
<p>Urban Agriculture Work Group, City of Detroit Planning Commission, 2009</p> <p>Contact: Kathryn Lynch Underwood kathrynl@detroitmi.gov</p>	<p>Detroit</p>	<p>The Urban Agriculture Work Group studied examples of urban agriculture zoning in cities nationwide, sought input from community-based gardeners and farmers and other experts, and developed a draft policy. In 2010 efforts of the group centered around understanding the implications of Michigan’s Right to Farm Act for urban agriculture policy development, related consultations, and internal deliberations.</p>

Appendix A: Full-Service Grocery Stores in Detroit



Below is a list of full-service grocery stores in 2010, identified by a Social Compact analysis commissioned by the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation. A full-service store is defined as carrying a range of items in all major categories of food sales: fresh fruits and vegetables, juices, dairy and eggs, meat, baked goods, and dry goods such as canned and packaged foods. This list is included to help foster community discussion on grocery stores in Detroit. Inclusion in the report does not constitute an endorsement of the stores by the Detroit Food Policy Council.

	Store Name	Address	Zip
1	Aldi Food Store	15415 Gratiot Ave	48205
2	Aldi Food Store	14708 Mack Ave	48215
3	Americana Foods	15041 Plymouth Rd	48227
4	Apollo Supermarket	20250 W 7 Mile Rd	48219
5	Atlas Market	2645 W Davison	48238
6	Azteca Supermercado	2411 Central St	48209
7	Banner Supermarket	14424 Schaefer Hwy	48227
8	Big Bear	15200 E Warren Ave	48224
9	Del Point Food Center	16700 Harper Ave	48224

	Store Name	Address	Zip
10	E & L Meat & Grocery	6000 W Vernor Hwy	48209
11	Fairline Food Center	16520 W Warren Ave	48228
12	Family Fair Food Center	700 Chene St	48207
13	Family Food Super Store	8665 Rosa Parks Blvd	48206
14	Farmer John Supermarket	9731 Harper Ave	48213
15	Farmers Best Market	18246 Wyoming St	48221
16	Food 4 Less Supermarket	14020 Grand River Ave	48227
17	Food Express Market	9911 E Jefferson Ave	48214
18	Food Farm Market	11550 Dexter Ave	48206
19	Food Giant	14040 Greenfield Rd	48227
20	Food Pride	500 E Warren Ave	48201
21	Food Town Supermarket	7811 Gratiot Ave	48213
22	Gigante Prince Valley	5931 Michigan Ave	48210
23	Glory Supermarket	12230 E 8 Mile Rd	48205
24	Glory Supermarket	19150 Telegraph Rd	48219
25	Glory Supermarket	8000 W Outer Dr	48235
26	Grand Price Market	12955 Grand River Ave	48227
27	Greenfield Supermarket	15530 Puritan St	48227
28	Harbortown Market	3472 E Jefferson Ave	48207
29	Harper Food Center	13999 Harper Ave	48213
30	Honey Bee La Colmena	2443 Bagley St	48216
31	Imperial Super Store	1940 E 8 Mile Rd	48234
32	Indian Village Market	8415 E Jefferson Ave	48214
33	Jerrys Food Center	13433 W 8 Mile Rd	48235
34	Joy Thrifty Scot Market	3431 Joy Rd	48206
35	King Cole Foods	40 Clairmount St	48202
36	Kit Kat Market	8330 Harper Ave	48213
37	La Fiesta Market	4645 W Vernor Hwy	48209
38	La Guadalupana El Mercad	6680 Michigan Ave	48210
39	Lances Hometown Market	8656 Wyoming St	48204
40	Liberty Foods	10620 W McNichols Rd	48221
41	Livernois Supermarket	13230 Livernois Ave	48238
42	Luckys Market	17241 E Warren Ave	48224
43	Mazens	12740 Gratiot Ave	48205
44	Metro Food Center	6461 W Warren Ave	48210

	Store Name	Address	Zip
45	Metro Foodland Market	18551 Grand River Ave	48223
46	Mikes Fresh Market	14383 Gratiot Ave	48205
47	Mikes Fresh Market	19195 Livernois Ave	48221
48	Morang Supermarket	12055 Morang Dr	48224
49	Motor City Market Place	11205 Mack Ave	48214
50	Motown Market	1737 W Grand Blvd	48208
51	New Merchant Food Center	2819 E 7 Mile Rd	48234
52	New Redford Foods	21673 Grand River Ave	48219
53	Oakland Food Center	9400 Oakland St	48211
54	Parkway Foods	13210 E Jefferson Ave	48215
55	Pick & Save Market	7404 E 7 Mile Rd	48234
56	Public Foods	16226 E Warren Ave	48224
57	Ryans Foods	5858 W Vernor Hwy	48209
58	Saturn Super Foods	20221 Joy Rd	48228
59	Save A Lot	4703 Conner St	48215
60	Save A Lot	15001 Houston Whittier St	48205
61	Save A Lot	3681 Gratiot Ave	48207
62	Save A Lot	13750 Fenkell St	48227
63	Save A Lot	8000 Schaefer Hwy	48228
64	Save A Lot	5181 Grand River Ave	48208
65	Save A Lot	2545 S Schaefer Hwy	48217
66	Save Mart	7011 Gratiot Ave	48207
67	Savon Foods	15025 W 7 Mile Rd	48235
68	Savon Foods Super Store	18000 Livernois Ave	48221
69	Seven Mile Food	8139 E 7 Mile Rd	48234
70	Seven Star Food Center	11500 E McNichols Rd	48205
71	Shop A Lot	10320 Plymouth Rd	48204
72	Super Fair Foods	7009 W 7 Mile Rd	48221
73	Super Giant Super Market	8830 Gratiot Ave	48213
74	Superland Market	17021 Schoolcraft St	48227
75	Thrifty Scot Supermarket	12021 Harper Ave	48213
76	US Quality Food Center	15690 Joy Rd	48228
77	University Foods	1131 W Warren Ave	48201
78	Valu Save Food Center	14470 Livernois Ave	48238
79	Vernor Food Center	8801 W Vernor Hwy	48209

Photo: Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market



Photo: Eastern Market Corporation

Shopping at the Northwest Farmers' Market, left, and Eastern Market, above.

Appendix B: Neighborhood Farmers' Markets, 2010

Farmers Markets	Location	Day	Time	Season Ending	Bridge Card	Double Up Food Bucks
Saturday Market at Eastern Market	2934 Russell	Saturday	5am - 5pm	Year-round	Yes	Yes
East Warren Avenue Farmers' Market	Bishop and East Warren ²	Saturday	10am - 4pm	1st Sat. in Oct	Yes	Yes
Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market	15000 Southfield	Thursday	4pm - 8pm	10/14/2010	Yes	Yes
Wayne State Wednesday Farmers' Market	5201 Cass Avenue	Wednesday	11am - 4pm	10/27/2010	Yes	Yes
Wayne State School of Medicine Market ³	Between Scott Hall and Detroit Receiving Hospital- off St. Antoine	3rd Thursday	11am - 4pm	10/27/2010	Yes	Yes
Windmill Market	Lodge Service Drive, Livernois and Fenkell	Saturday Wednesday	9am - 2pm 4pm - 7pm	November	Yes	No
New Center Park	West Grand Blvd @ Second	Sunday	9am - 2pm	9/30/2010	No	No
Mack-East Grand Boulevard Farmers' Market	Mack and East Grand Blvd.	Thursday	4pm - 7pm	9/30/2010	Yes	No

² Starting 2011, this market's location is changed to Mack and Alter.

³ This market is not offered in 2011.

Appendix C:

Michigan Citizen articles by DFPC members

DFPC members contributed a number of articles to *The Michigan Citizen* newspaper since we first convened. Most are available on the internet, web addresses are indicated alongside the article. All articles may be obtained from newspaper archives which are available at the Detroit Public Library.

April 4, 2010	Malik Yakini	August 8, 2010	Malik Yakini
Food is Life		Four strategies to build food security in Detroit's 'African American' Community	
http://michigancitizen.com/food-is-life-p8508-77.htm		http://michigancitizen.com/four-strategies-to-build-food-security-in-detroits-african-american-comm-p8884-77.htm	
April 18, 2010	Phil Jones	August 15, 2010	Fair Food Network
"A Thousand Words"		More greens for your "green"	
http://michigancitizen.com/a-thousand-words-p8531-77.htm		http://michigancitizen.com/more-greens-for-your-green-p8900-74.htm	
April 25, 2010	Kami Pothukuchi	August 22, 2010	Charity Hicks
Local universities as partners in sustainable food systems		Fighting for food, water and a better quality of life	
http://michigancitizen.com/local-universities-as-partners-in-sustainable-food-systems-p8553-77.htm		http://michigancitizen.com/fighting-for-food-water-and-a-better-quality-of-life-p8928-77.htm	
May 2, 2010	Dan Carmody	August 29, 2010	Dan Carmody
Better access to fresh, healthy food		Rethinking the monopoly on our food chain	
http://michigancitizen.com/better-access-to-fresh-healthy-food-p8579-77.htm		http://michigancitizen.com/rethinking-the-monopoly-on-our-food-chain-p8953-77.htm	
May 30, 2010	Charles Walker	September 5, 2010	Kami Pothukuchi
Food binds us together		Reimagining neighborhood stores, starting with produce	
http://michigancitizen.com/food-binds-us-together-p8675-77.htm		http://michigancitizen.com/reimagining-neighborhood-stores-starting-with-produce-p8979-77.htm	
June 6, 2010	DeWayne Wells	September 12, 2010	Phil Jones
Summer vacation from hunger		Food—A Family Affair	
http://michigancitizen.com/summer-vacation-from-hunger-p8689-74.htm		September 19, 2010	Marilyn Nefer Ra Barber
June 13, 2010	Bill Ridella	Bring back the table	
Summer Food Service Program: Health Department continues to provide food for vacationing youth		http://michigancitizen.com/bring-back-the-table-p9024-77.htm	
http://michigancitizen.com/summer-food-service-program-p8725-77.htm		October 3, 2010	Olga S. Stella
June 20, 2010	Minsu Longiaru	Good grocery stores critical to Detroit's success	
What is the real cost of food on our tables?		http://michigancitizen.com/good-grocery-stores-critical-to-detroits-success-p9087-77.htm	
http://michigancitizen.com/what-is-the-real-cost-of-food-on-our-tables-p8750-77.htm		October 24, 2010	Kami Pothukuchi
June 27, 2010	Pam Weinstein	To support sustainable urban agriculture, Detroit needs exemption from Michigan's Right to Farm Law	
Local Markets: More than financial vitality		http://michigancitizen.com/to-support-sustainable-urban-agriculture-detroit-needs-exemption-from-mic-p9230-77.htm	
http://michigancitizen.com/local-markets-more-than-financial-vitality-p8773-77.htm		October 31, 2010	Malik Yakini
July 11, 2010	Ashley Atkinson	Undoing racism in the Detroit food system	
Tour reveals the heart of Detroit's resilient local food system		http://michigancitizen.com/undoing-racism-in-the-detroit-food-system-p9163-77.htm	
http://michigancitizen.com/tour-reveals-the-heart-of-detroits-resilient-local-food-system-p8811-77.htm		November 7, 2010	Phil Jones
August 1, 2010	Kathryn Underwood	You say tomato...	
From Kitchen to Community...Kitchen!		November 14, 2010	Kami Pothukuchi
		Wayne State Farmers Markets grow appreciation for local food	
		http://michigancitizen.com/wayne-state-farmers-markets-grow-appreciation-for-local-food-p9208-77.htm	



November 28, 2010 Minsu Longiaru
Nearly 90% of restaurant workers do not receive paid sick days
<http://michigancitizen.com/nearly-of-restaurant-workers-do-not-receive-paid-sick-days-p9257-77.htm>

December 5, 2010 Charles Walker
Looking for the big box
<http://michigancitizen.com/looking-for-the-big-box-p9280-77.htm>

December 12, 2010 Malik Yakini
Reflections on the Black Farmers and Urban Gardeners Conference. Brooklyn, New York, November 19-21, 2010
<http://michigancitizen.com/reflections-on-the-black-farmers-and-urban-gardeners-conference-p9306-77.htm>

December 19, 2010 Charity Hicks
Linking Detroit to national and international food movements
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<http://michigancitizen.com/celebrating-detroit-food-p9339-77.htm>

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WIC Project FRESH program changed without input from those affected
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February 27, 2011 Ashley Atkinson
Motown to Grow-Town!
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Acronyms Used

ACS	American Community Survey	FY	Fiscal Year
BRFSS	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey	GDRRA	Greater Detroit Resource Recovery Authority
CACFP	Child and Adult Care Food Program	GRPC	Garden Resource Program Collaborative
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	IOM	Institute of Medicine
DBCFSN	Detroit Black Community Food Security Network	LAI	Local Access Index
DEGC	Detroit Economic Growth Corporation	NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
DFPC	Detroit Food Policy Council	SEED Wayne	Sustainable Food System Education and Engagement in Detroit and Wayne State University
DHWP	(City of Detroit) Department of Health and Wellness Promotion	SFSP	Summer Food Service Program
DPS	Detroit Public Schools	SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
DUFB	Double Up Food Bucks	TEFAP	The Emergency Food Assistance Program
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	WIC	(Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for) Women, Infants, and Children
FFVP	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program		



Web Citations

All websites included in footnotes throughout this report were active as of March 30, 2011 or later, as applicable.



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