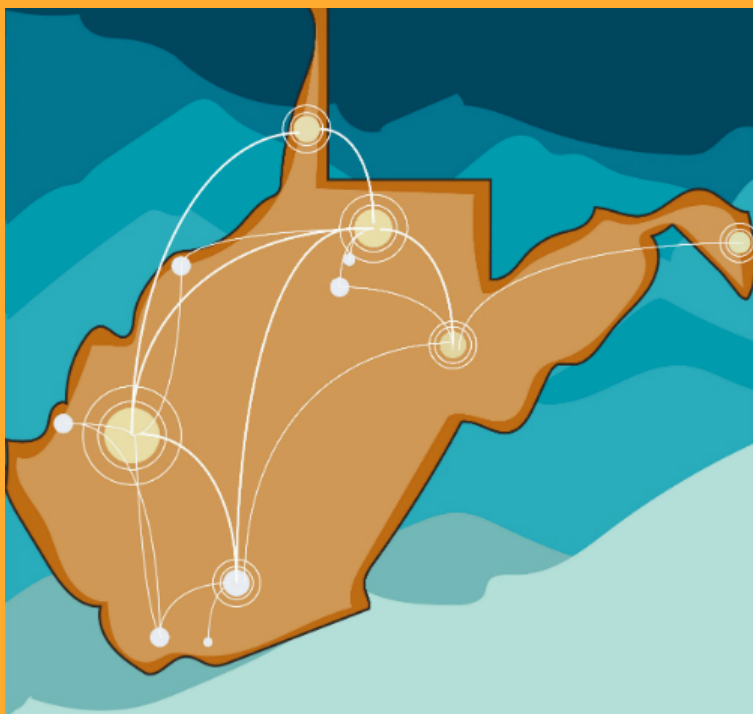


# *Nourishing Networks 2017*

## *The State of Healthy Food Access in West Virginia*



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# What is Food Justice?

FOOD JUSTICE is the right of all people at all times and in all places to gain and maintain access to the resources necessary to produce or obtain affordable, safe, culturally appropriate, healthy and nutritious foods

# Democratizing Food Knowledge

**How can we build and support grassroots capacity in West Virginia to achieve food justice?**



Learn from different food justice initiatives around the state

Translate learning to make it useful and take meaningful action

Coalesce diverse learning, strategies and actors to achieve food justice

# WV FOODLINK

## PARTNERS



ANTI-HUNGER AND HEALTH COALITIONS

TRY THIS

FOODBANKS

SOUP KITCHENS

FOOD PANTRIES

STATE OFFICES

DEPT EDUCATION

DHHR

WVU RESEARCH AND EXTENSION

DEPT AGRICULTURE

STATEWIDE ADVOCACY

WVFC

CENTER FOR BUDGET AND POLICY

AFSC

OCOF

COMMUNITY ACTION

STATE NUTRITION PROGRAMS

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

FOOD POLICY CHANGE

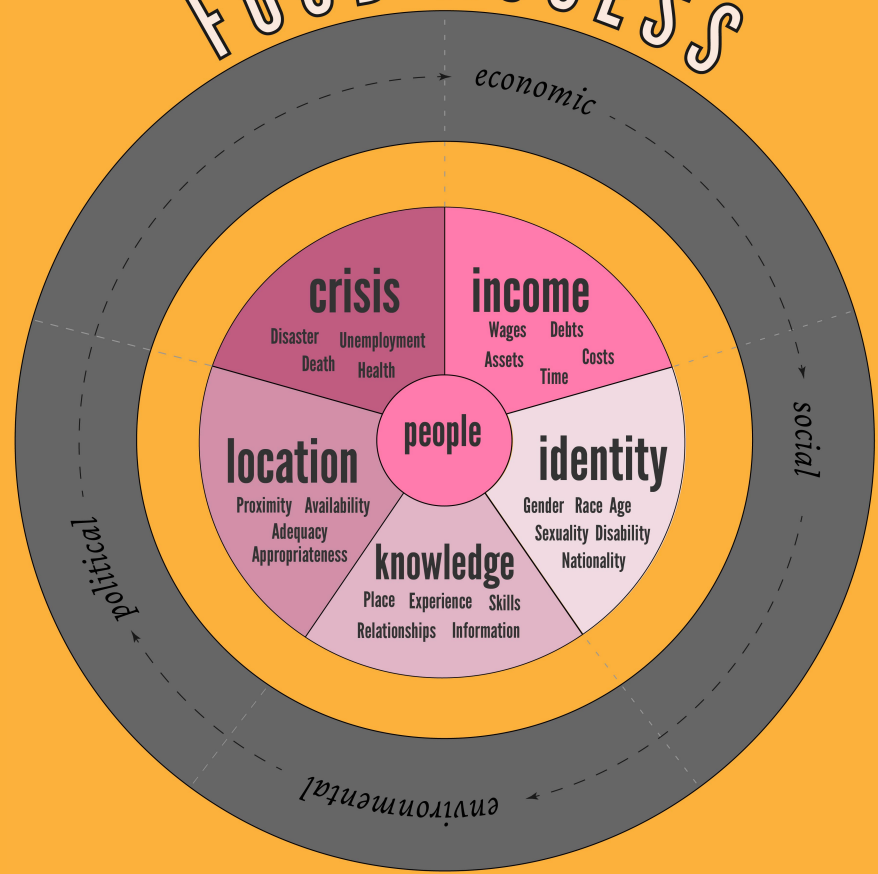
FOOD ACCESS

people

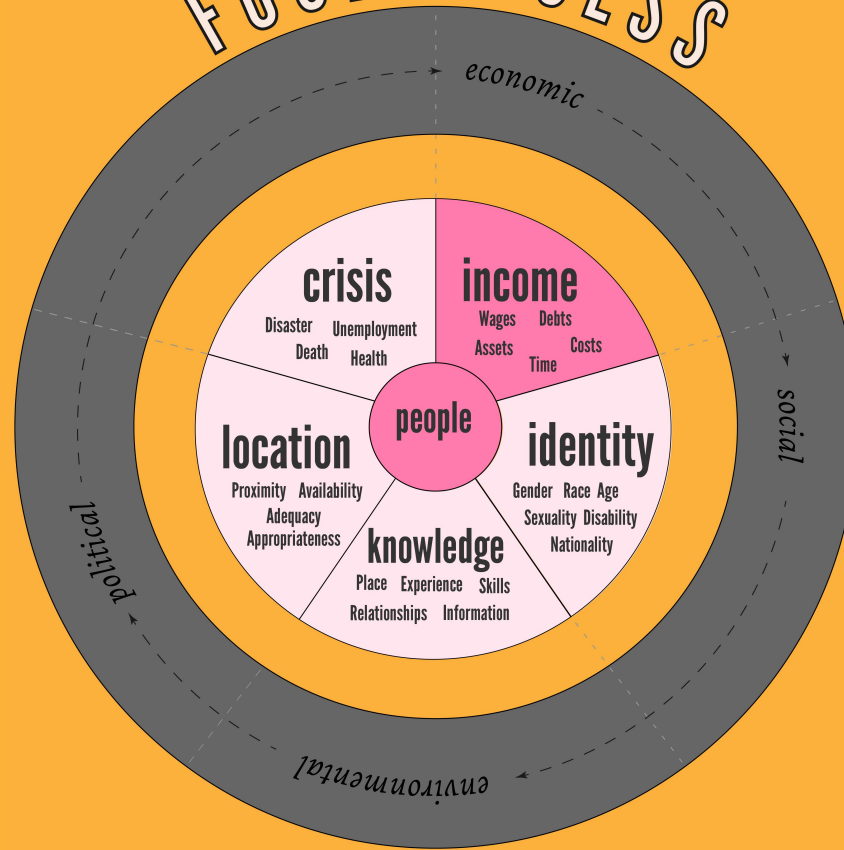
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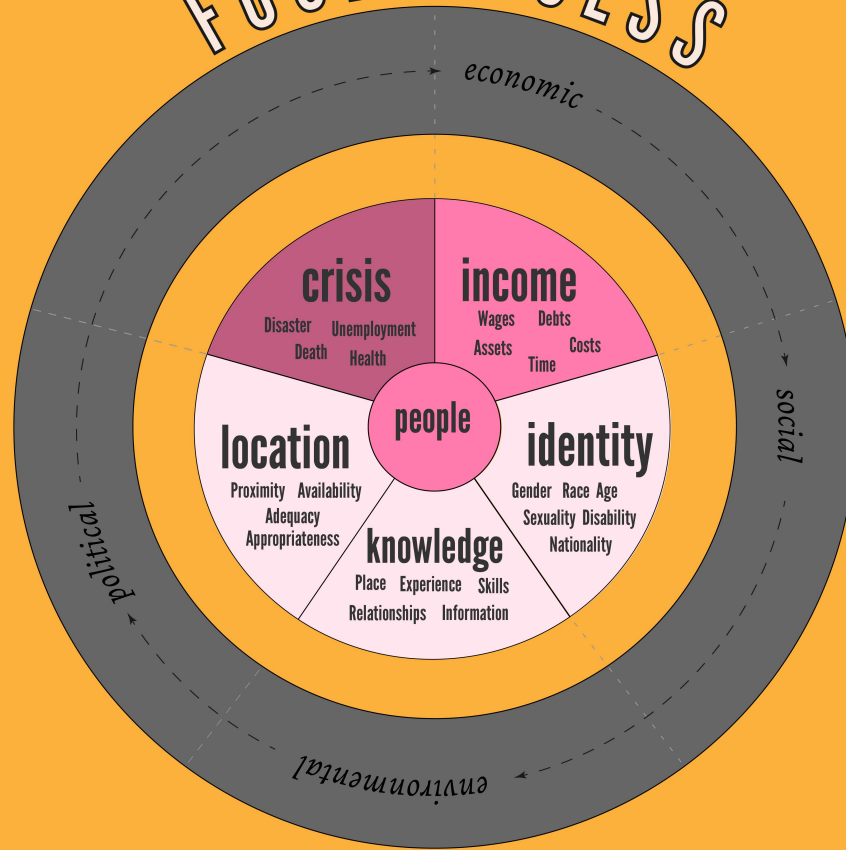


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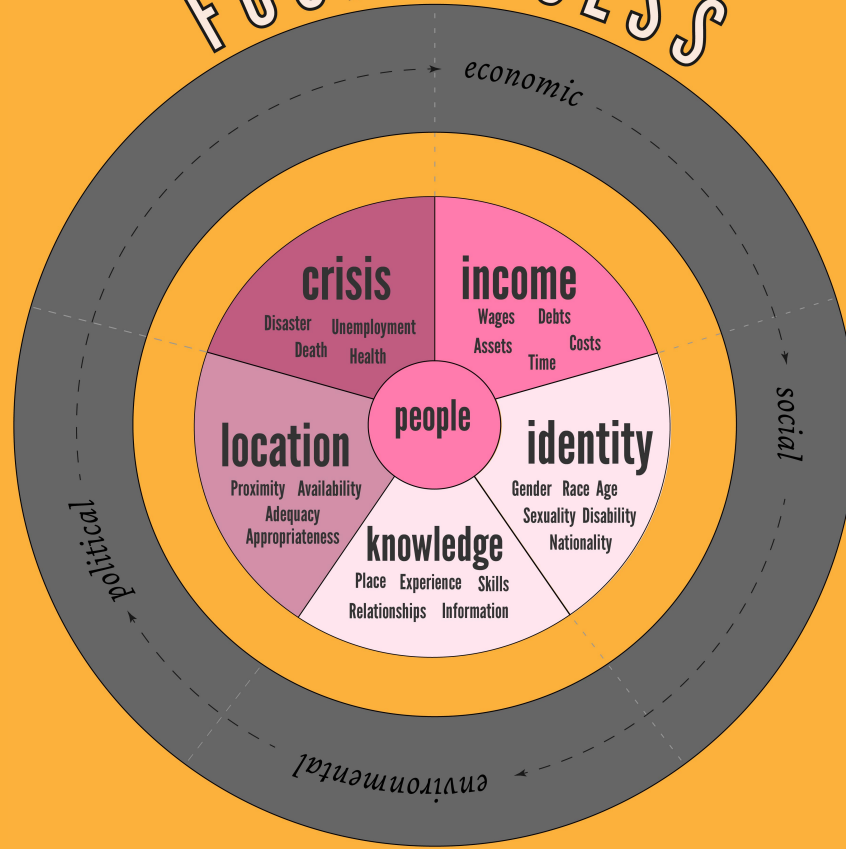




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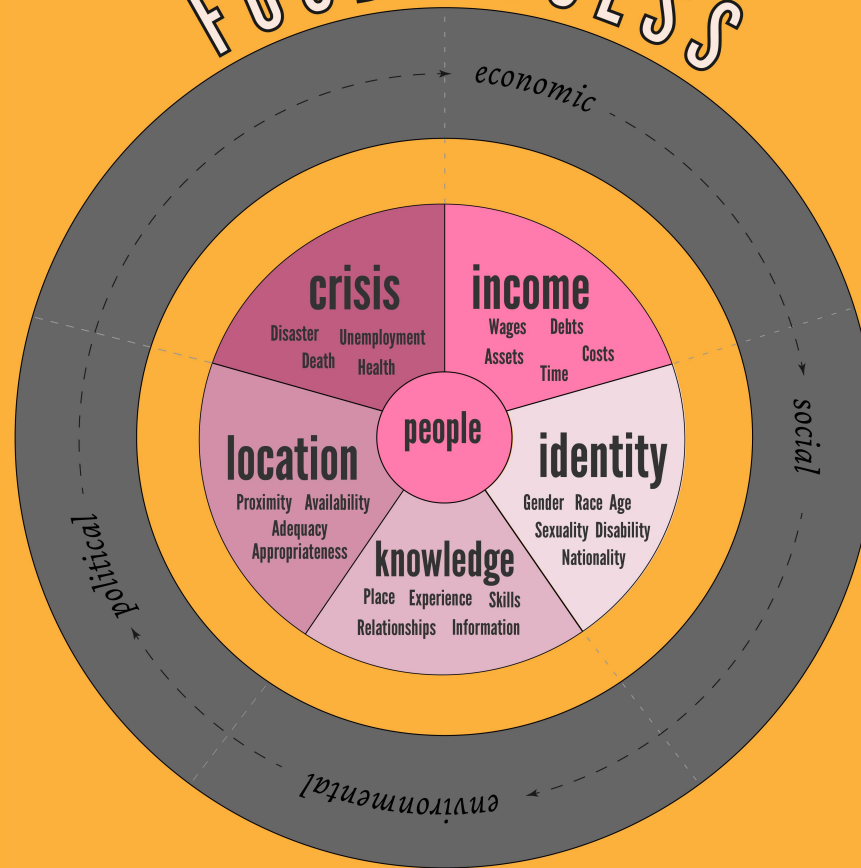
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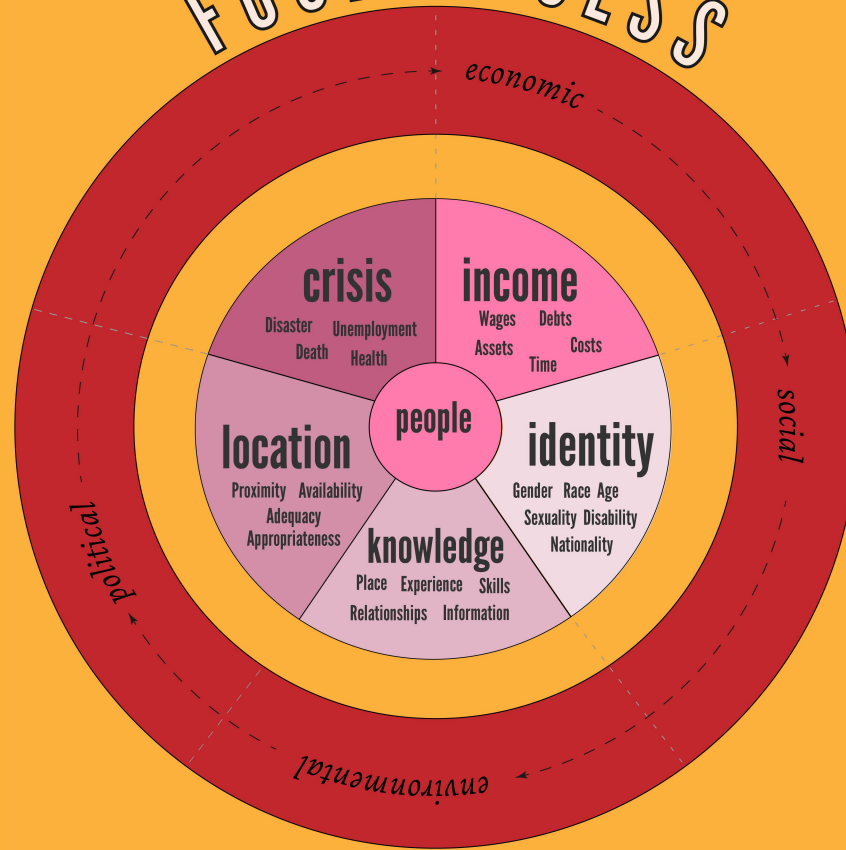
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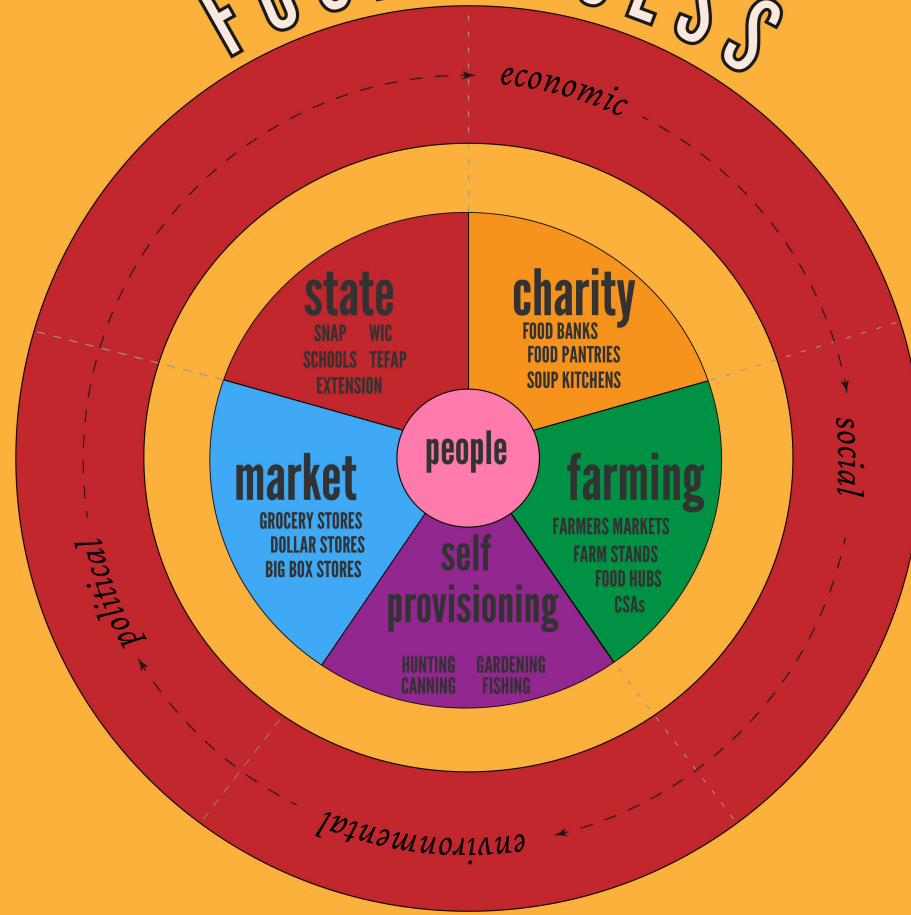
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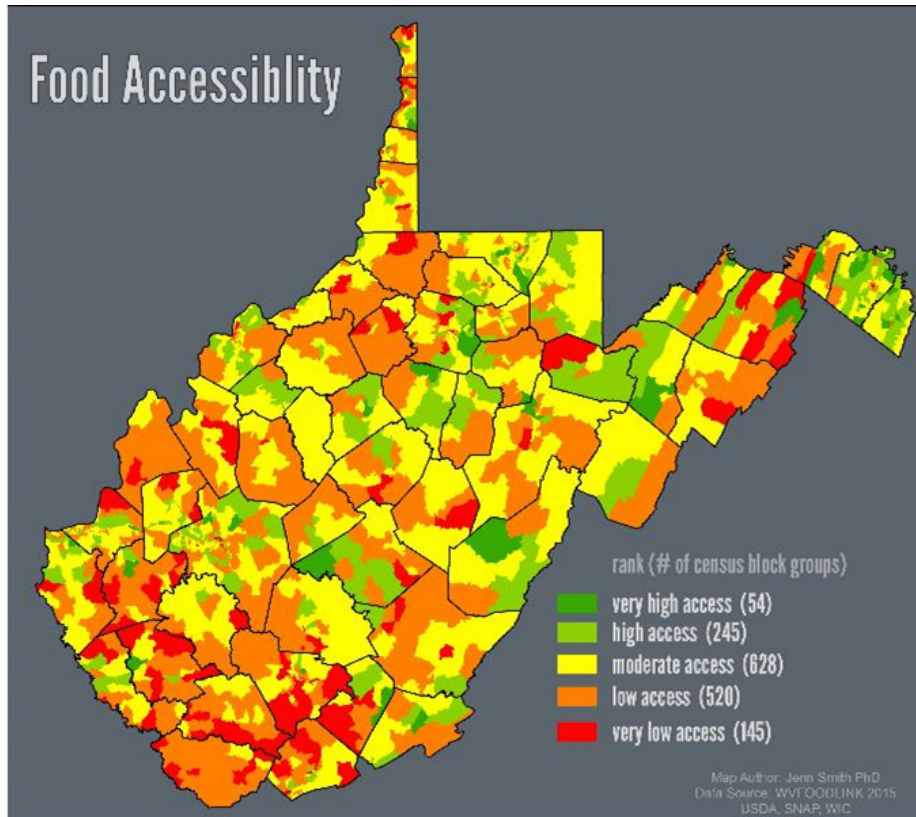
# FOOD ACCESS



# FOOD ACCESS



# Market Access



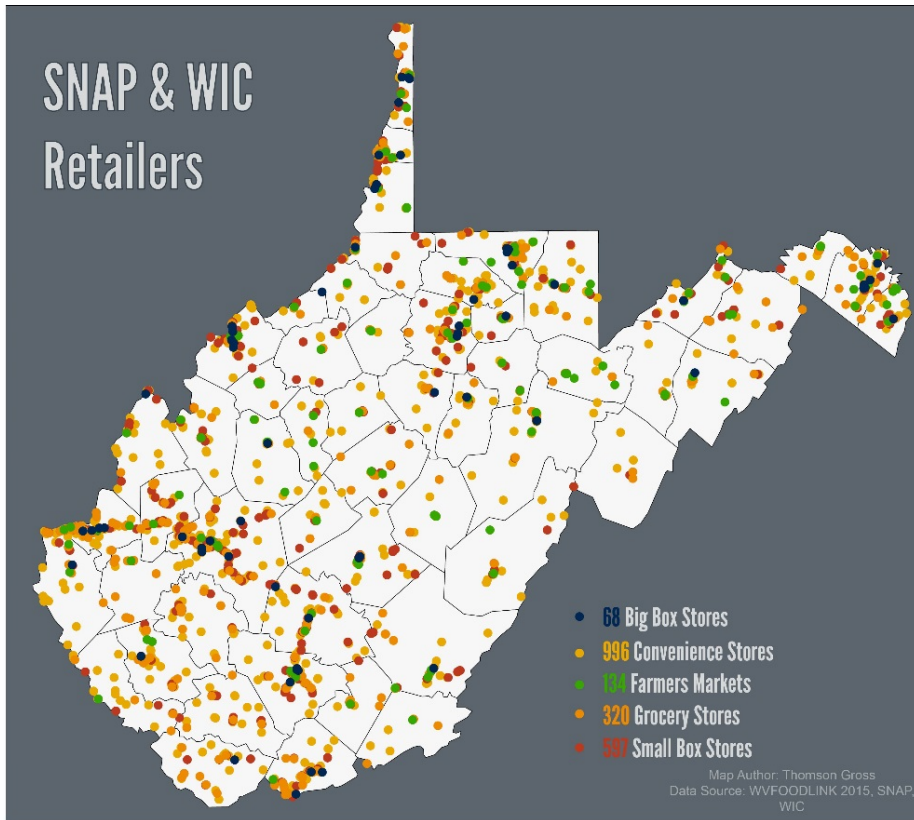
**29%** of WV residents  
live in a food desert

Access Rating based on:

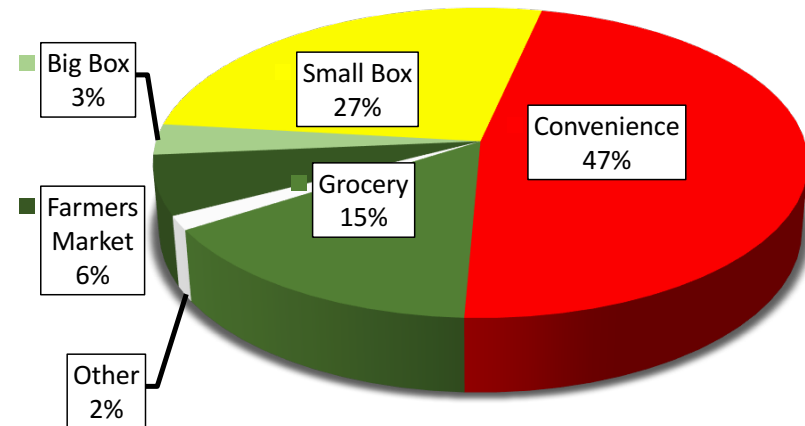
- Quantity of Food Stores
- Quality of Food Stores
- Poverty Rate
- Access to a Vehicle (Census)



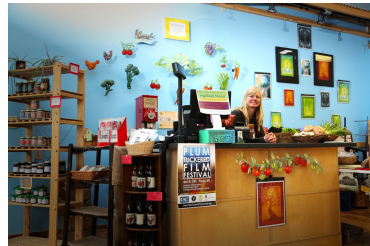
# Market Access



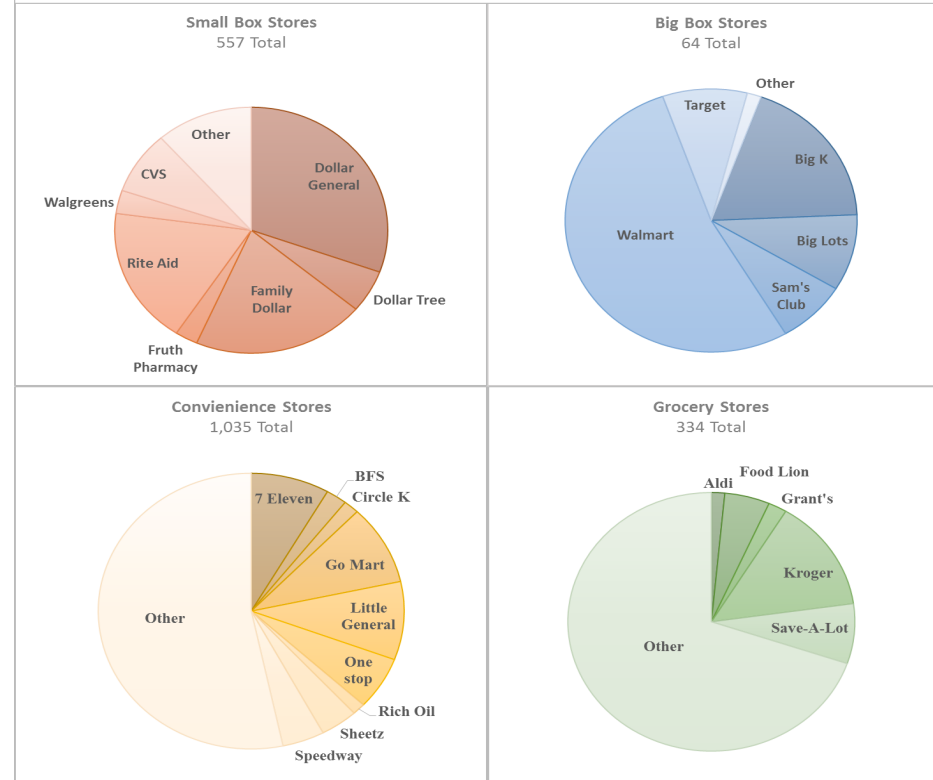
## Percentage of Retailers by Category



# Market Access



**Food Market Concentration in West Virginia by Store Category**



# Market Access

Retail Initiatives

Farmer's Markets

Mobile Markets

Gardener's Markets

Food Cooperatives

Food Hubs



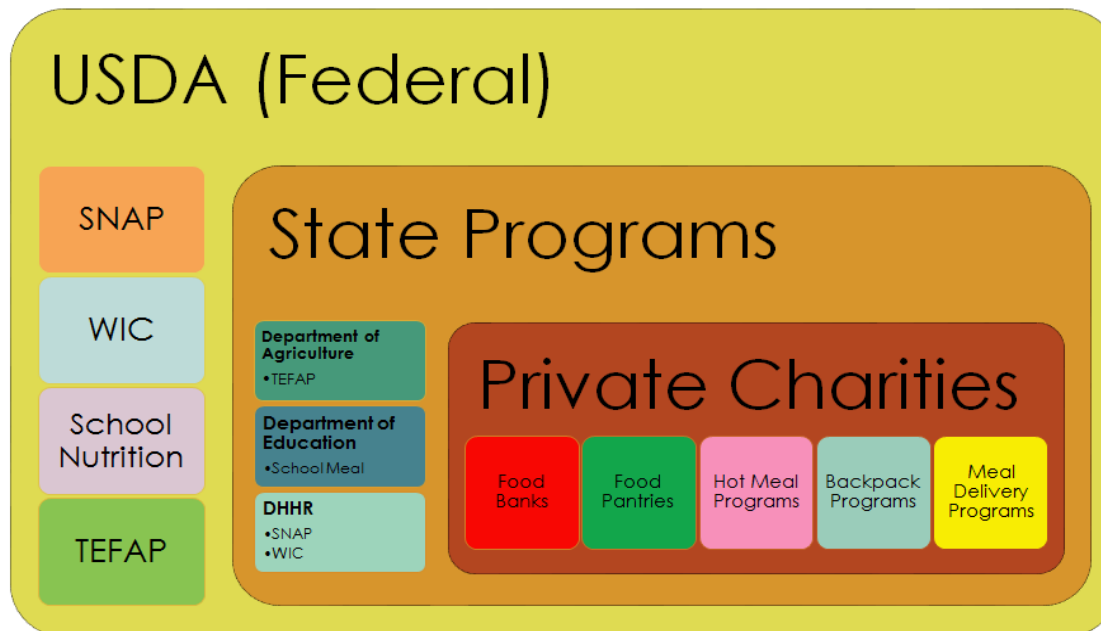
# FOOD ACCESS



# State Interventions

FY 2015 Federal Food Disbursements to West Virginia

SNAP	WIC	School Nutrition	TEFAP	TOTALS
\$476,134,200	\$26,254,988	\$87,152,610	\$1,499,753	\$589,541,798



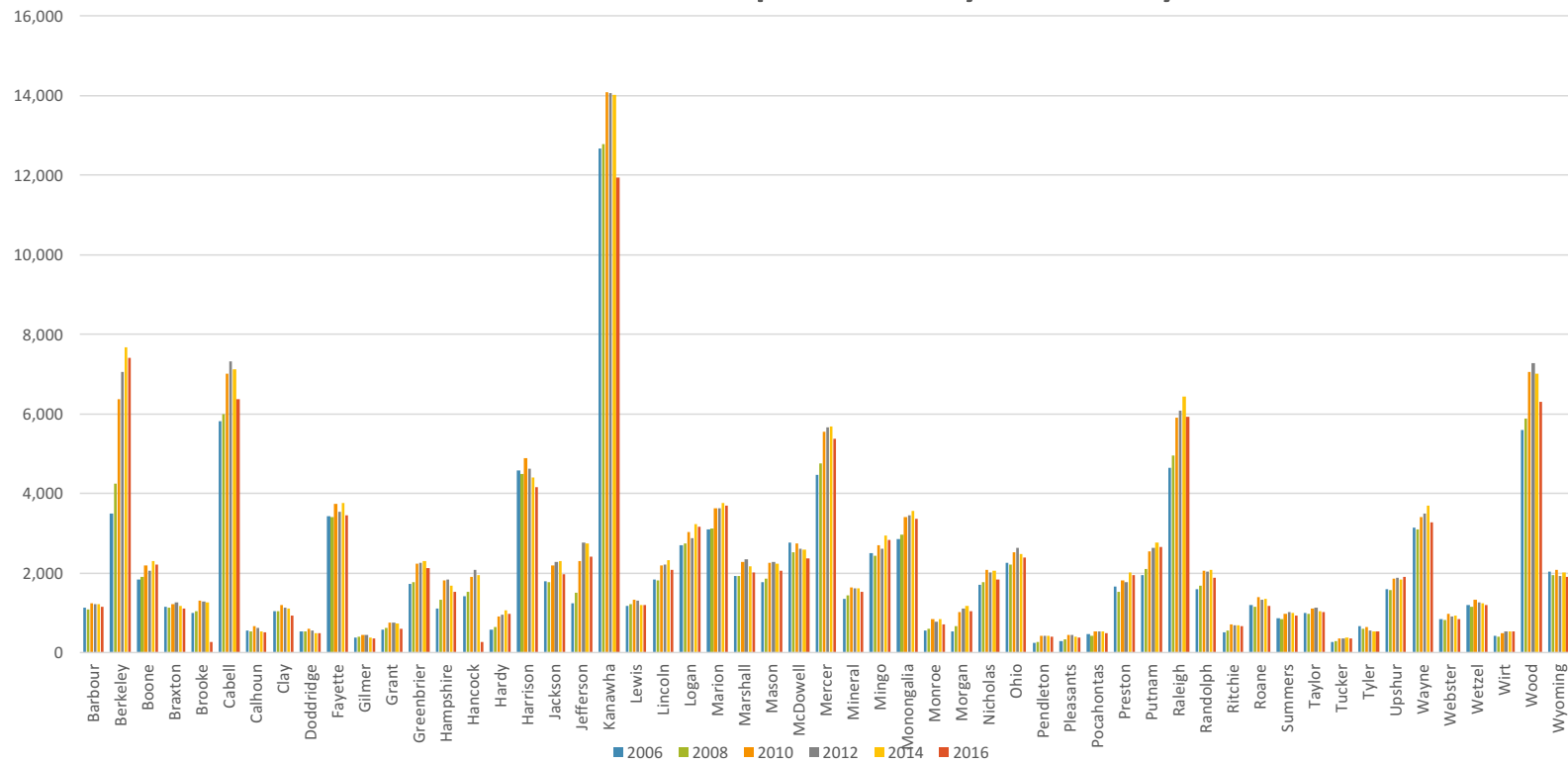
# Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program



- 1 in 5 West Virginians
- 19.9% of population
- 352,000 recipients
- \$220 average benefit
- 30-40% of monthly budget
- \$489 million invested
- \$832 million impact

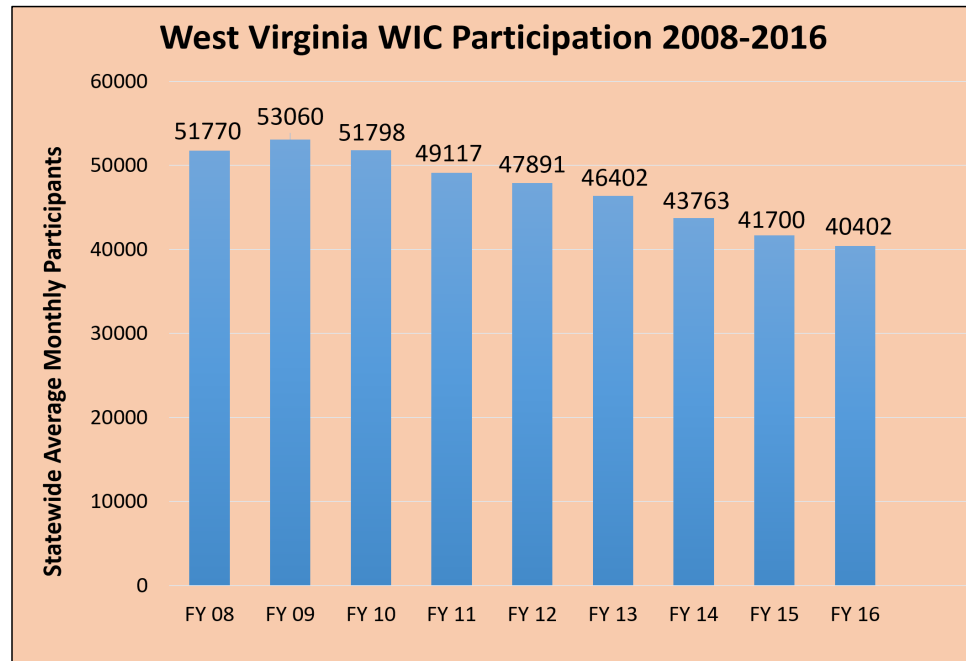
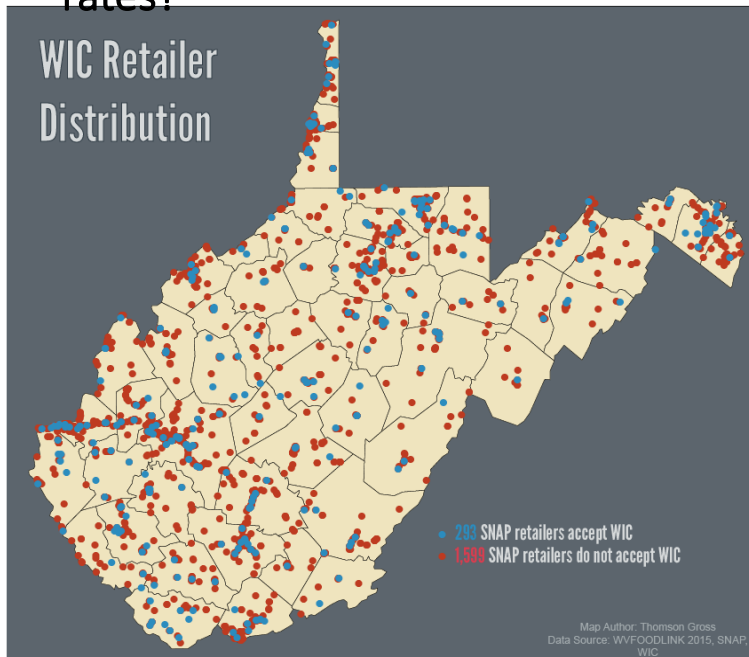
# 40% of SNAP Beneficiaries are Children in WV

## Child SNAP Recipients by County



# Women, Infants and Children Program

Is there a relationship between changing retail geography and WIC participation rates?

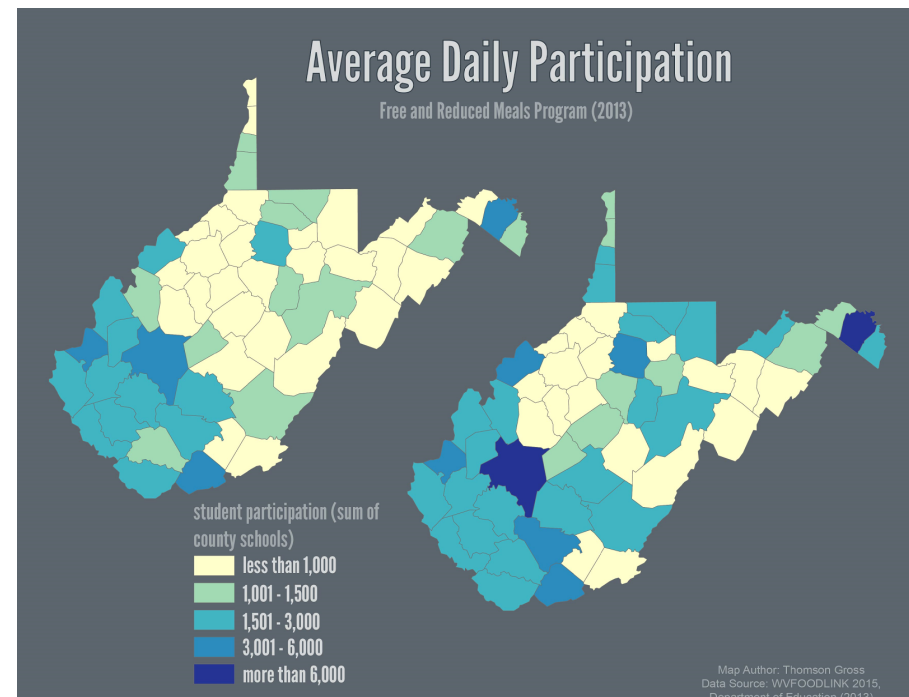




# School Meal Program

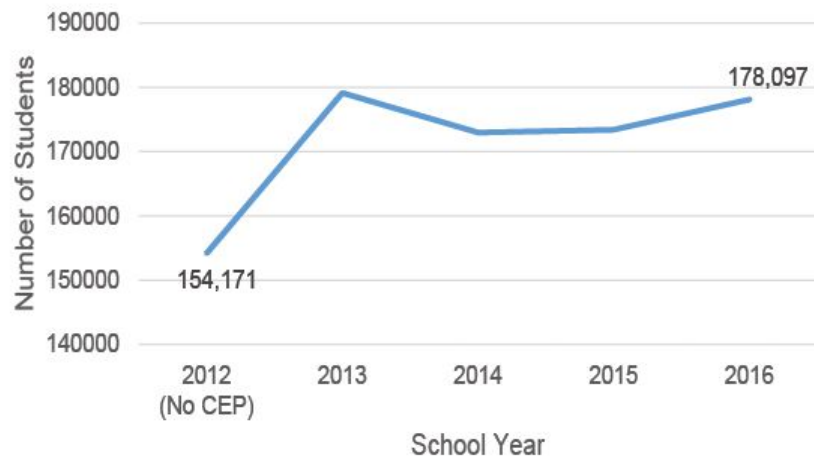
175,000 WV children are eligible for free and reduced meals at school

60% are participating in breakfast and lunch programs. The highest participation rate in the country!

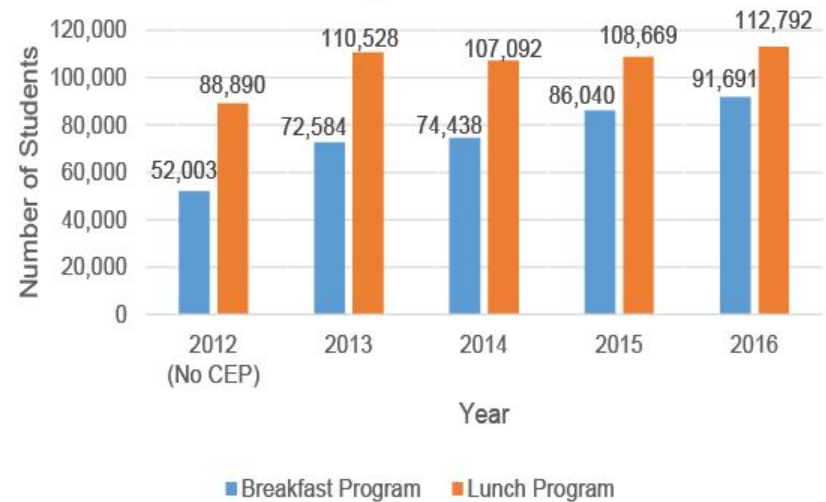


# School Meal Program

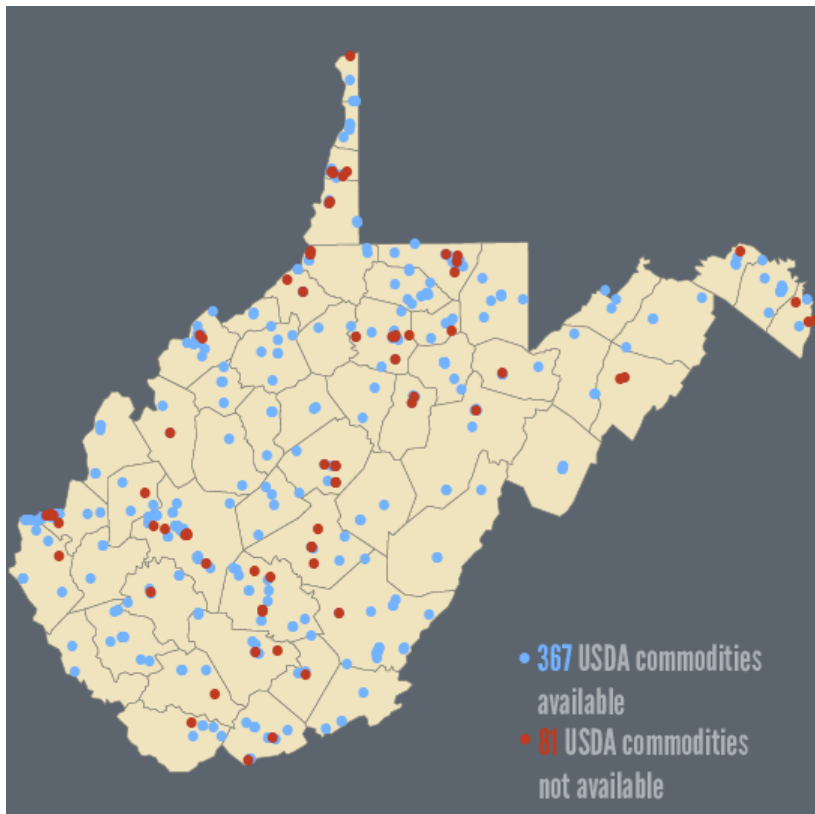
Students in WV Eligible for Free or Reduced School Meals



Number of Students Participating in School Meal Programs In WV



# The Emergency Food Assistance Program



2 Food Banks

367 Food Assistance Charities (69%)  
provide free TEFAP foods

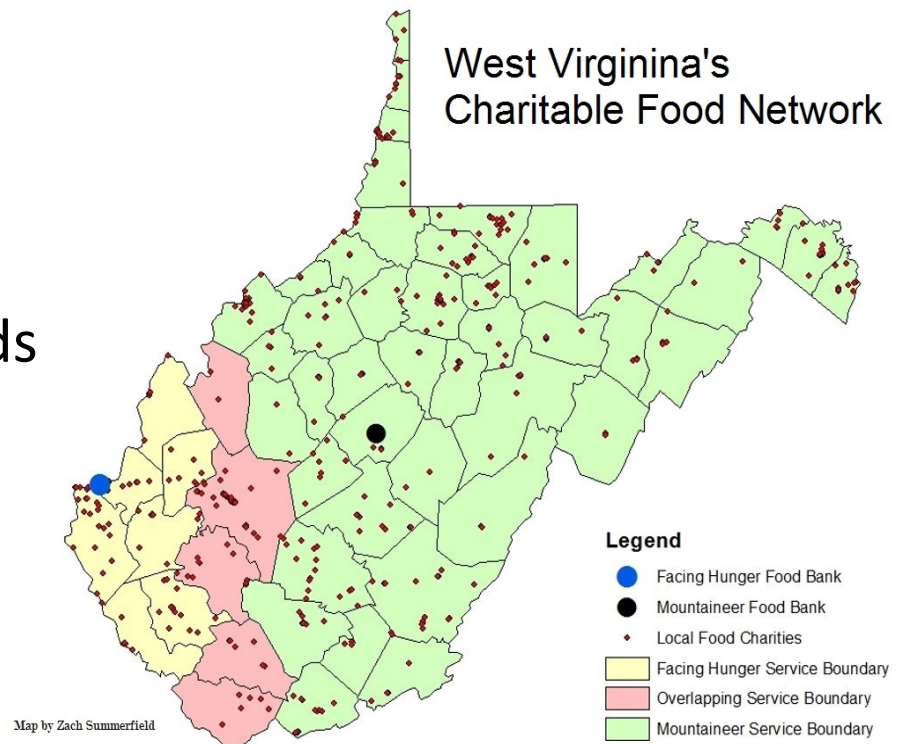
Canned goods, frozen meats, dried  
fruits etc. These purchases also  
support US agricultural producers

# FOOD ACCESS



# Charitable Food Assistance

300,000 people per month  
16% of state's population  
\$11,000,000 raised in private funds  
7,000+ volunteers a month

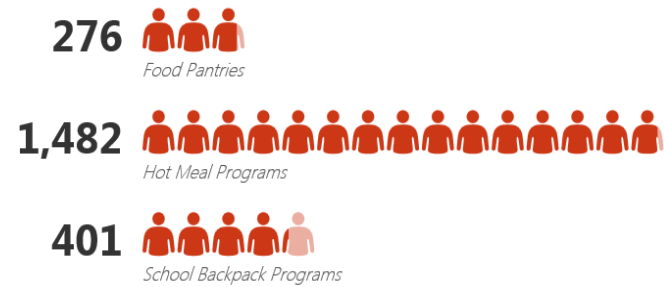


# Charitable Food Assistance

## Number of Agencies by Type



## AVERAGE SERVED PER MONTH

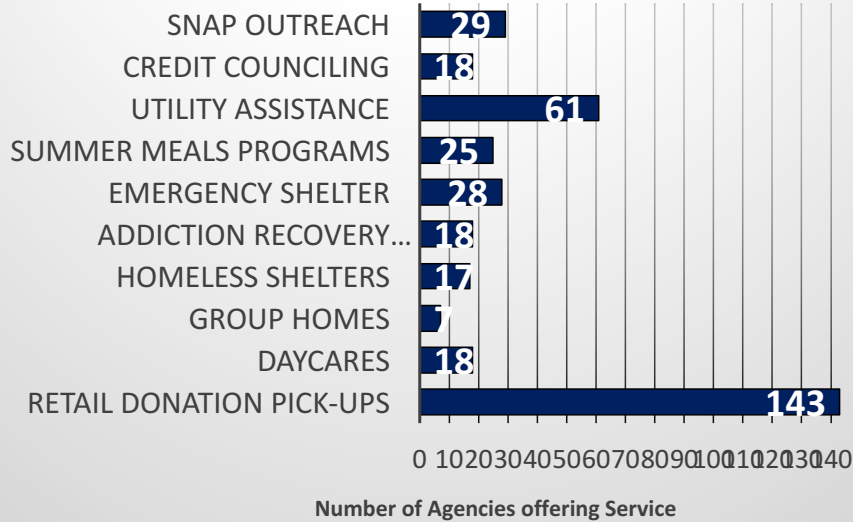


## Number of People Served by Food Charities every Month



# Charitable Food Assistance

## Other Service Offered by Food Assistance Charities



### MANNA GARDEN 2009



845 Sixth Ave  
Sweet Home, OR

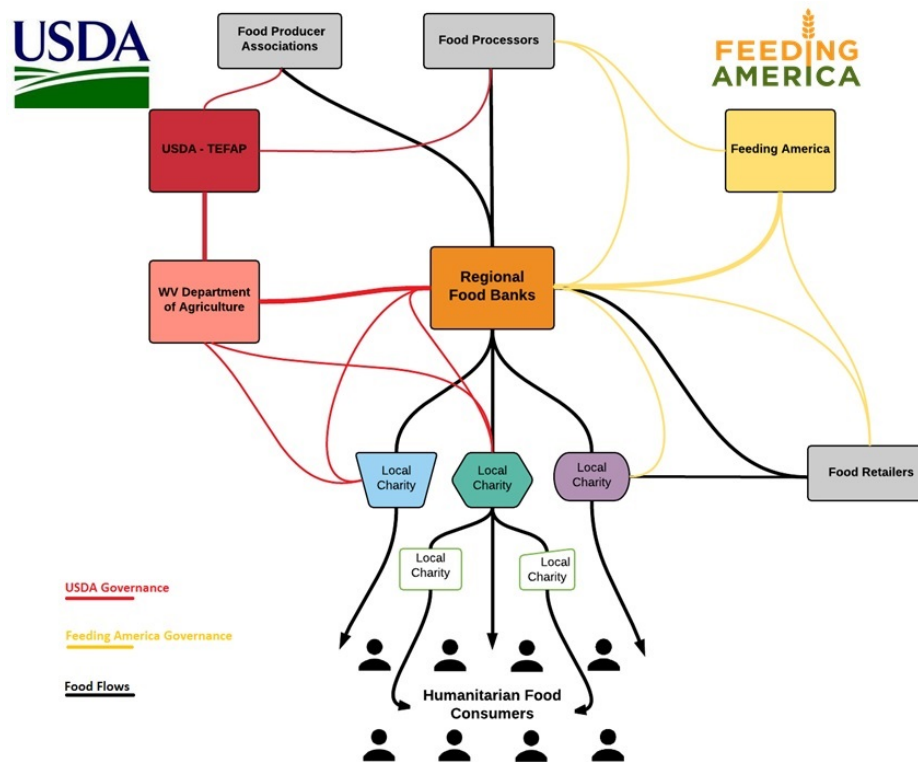


### FIRST WORK PARTY



United Methodist Church  
367-3073

# Charitable Food Assistance

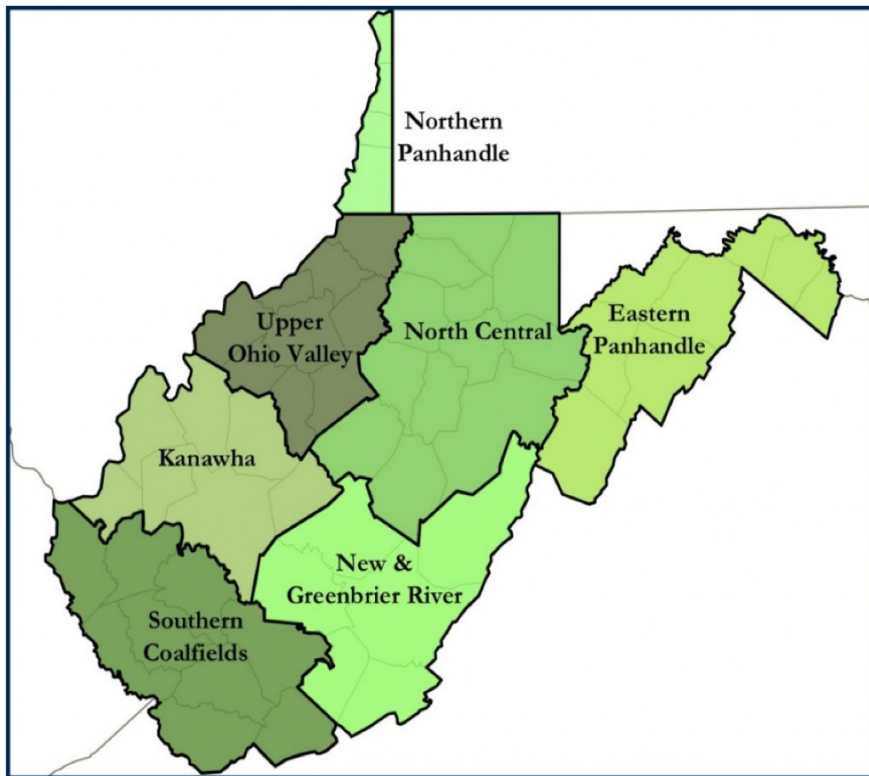




# FOOD ACCESS



# Farming

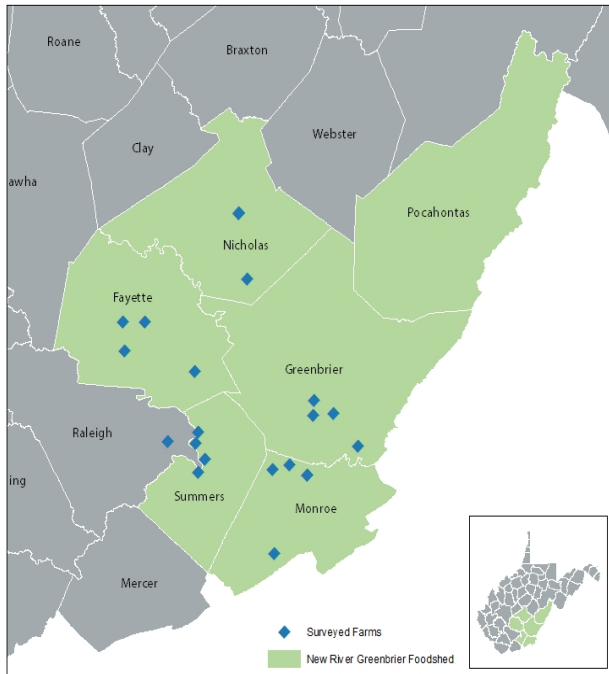


## FOODSHED DEVELOPMENT



# Farming

Study Area



Map Author: Thomson Gross

**New River and Greenbrier Valley (NRGV) Foodshed**

**Land Use/Foodshed**

County	Veg Percent	Fruit Percent	Hay and other Crops	Beef and Dairy	Pig and Hog	Poultry and Egg	Sheep and Goat	Other animal production
Fayette	3.45%	3.88%	34.48%	43.10%	NA	2.16%	3.88%	9.05%
Greenbrier	3.05%	1.59%	27.47%	56.29%	0.98%	1.95%	3.66%	5.01%
Monroe	2.51%	1.26%	26.01%	58.79%	0.50%	1.88%	2.89%	6.16%
Nicholas	3.56%	2.54%	33.59%	45.80%	0.76%	2.04%	4.83%	6.87%
Pocahontas	2.57%	3.34%	31.62%	50.39%	1.29%	2.83%	4.11%	3.86%
Summers	2.32%	2.32%	35.65%	48.70%	1.16%	3.19%	2.03%	4.64%
<b>Foodshed total</b>	<b>2.86%</b>	<b>2.12%</b>	<b>29.93%</b>	<b>52.89%</b>	<b>0.81%</b>	<b>2.22%</b>	<b>3.50%</b>	<b>5.68%</b>

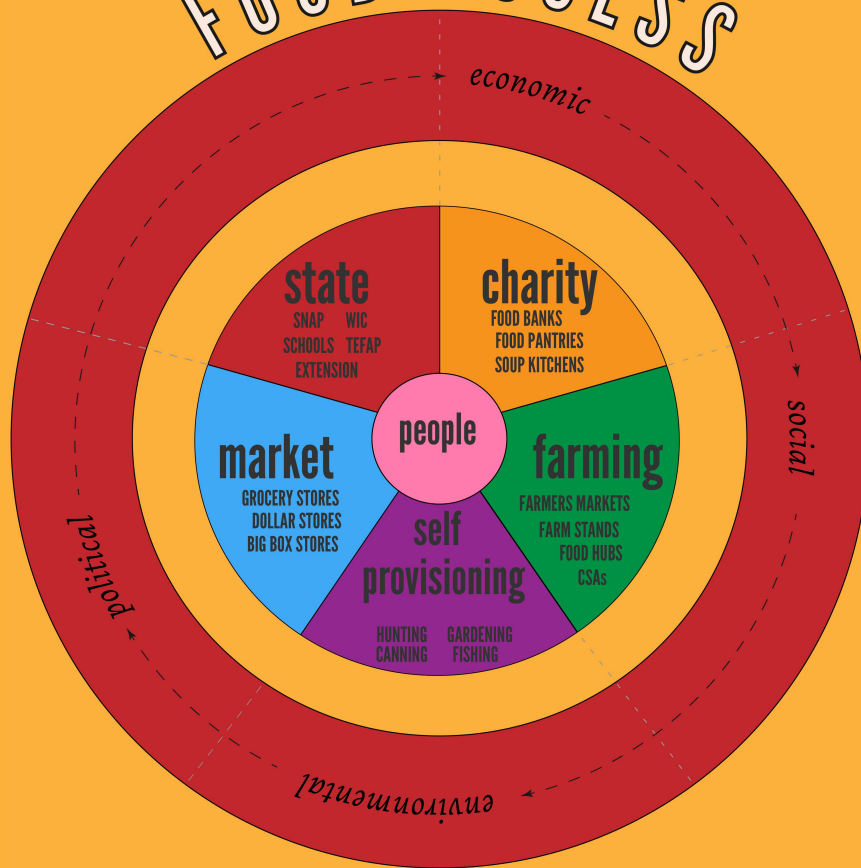
# FOOD ACCESS



# Self-Provisioning



# FOOD ACCESS



# Hybrid Food Initiatives

## WHAT IS ALTERNATIVE FOOD?

Alternative food networks are the response of the people of West Virginia to alleviate hunger and food insecurity in a scale and fashion that the conventional network fails to do.

## Alternative Food Programs

- Community Gardens
- For Profit/Grassroots
- Meat Processing
- School Gardens



Grassroots community gardens supporting alternative food assistance at Manna Meal

The Kanawha Institute for Social Research in Action helps the community by employing people with criminal backgrounds into the food sector



Cucumbers free to the public at Grow Ohio Valley's urban gardens

Grow Ohio Valley



Children growing their own food at North Elementary

North Elementary School Garden

Deer hunters give meat for food assistance with the help of meat processing plants throughout WV

Hunters for the Hungry



Conscious Harvest Community Garden

Community Garden supporting food assistance in Monongalia County

Heart and Hand

Free herbs at the Heart and Hand community gardens to support community development and local food assistance



RAIL

Free food to support community development in the beds of Raleigh Appalachian Improvement League



## ACTOR

## HYBRID FOOD INITIATIVE

Household

Gardening, Canning, Hunting, Fishing, Sharing

Emergency Food Agency

Garden, Link to Farmers, Pantry CSA, Mobile Pantry

Farmer's Market

Gleaning, SNAP, Double Bucks, Mobile Market

Community Garden

Land Access, Seed Sharing, Harvest for Hungry

Food Hub

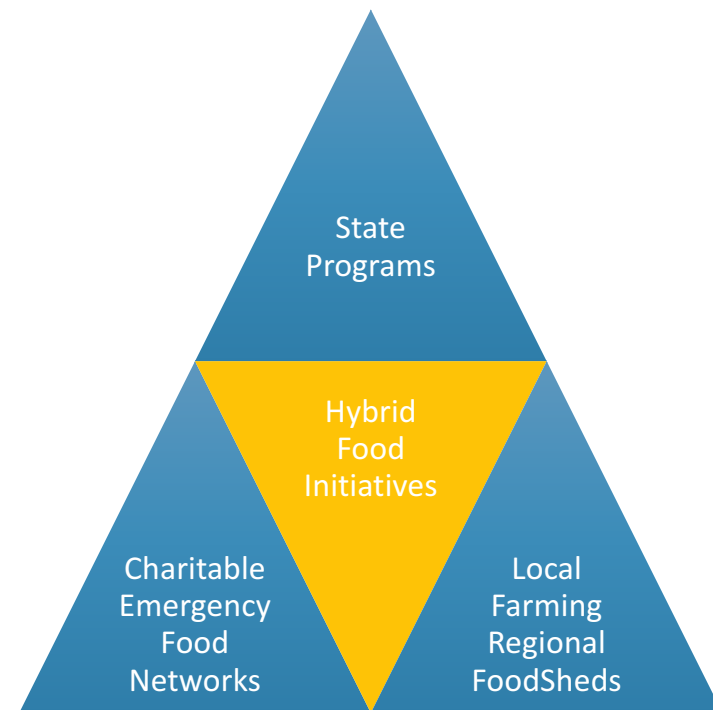
Retail/Wholesale, Farmer Aggregation, Cooperative

Social Enterprise

Ag. Workforce Development, Farming, Marketing

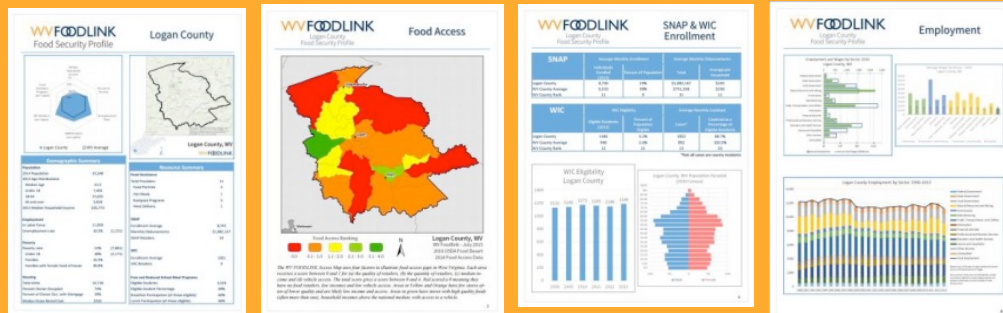
# Hybrid Food Initiatives

- Heart and Hand Pantry – Gardeners Market
- Alderson Food Hub
- Manna Meal – Garden to Meals
- Farmer’s Market Gleaning Projects
- Mobile Markets – Mingo, Ohio, Marshall, Brooke
- KISRA, Refresh Appalachia Growing Jobs
- Five Fishes Two Loaves –Hydroponics
- Grow Ohio Valley – Urban Gardening
- Conscious Harvest – Garden Collective
- Starting Points Farm to Pantry CSA





# Building Nourishing Networks

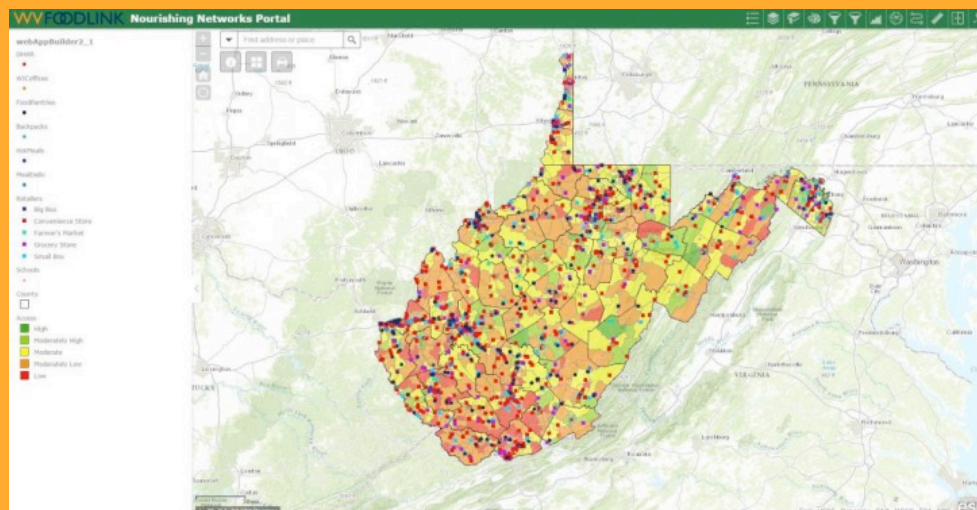


Local ownership of the tools used to assess food access and plan for the future

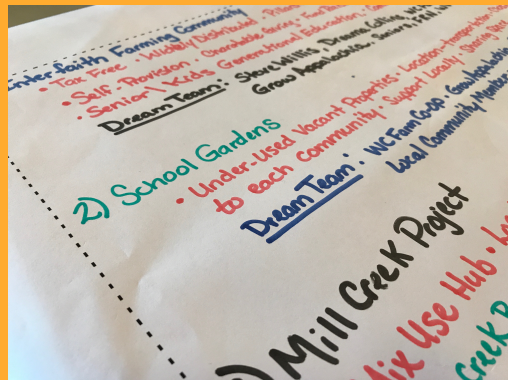
County Level Food Access Planning Groups Must include the voice of the food insecure!

Participatory Action Research

Network of collaborators contributing to and producing food systems knowledge



# Building Nourishing Networks



# Democratizing Food Knowledge

**How can we build and support grassroots capacity in West Virginia to achieve food justice?**



Learn from different food justice initiatives around the state

Translate learning to make it useful and take meaningful action

Coalesce diverse learning, strategies and actors to achieve food justice

# Building Nourishing Networks

Questions  
Comments  
Discussion