

Lincoln County Food Retailer Assessment

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Faire Holliday
Health Education Specialist
Lincoln County Public Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Lincoln County

Outline

- Food Insecurity in Lincoln County
- Food Retailer Assessment
- Recommendations and Next Steps

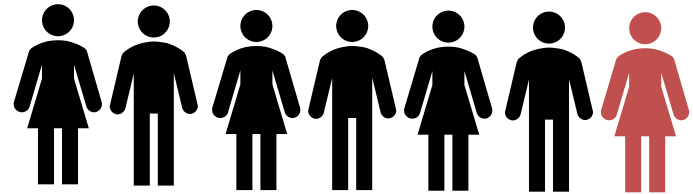
Food Insecurity in Lincoln County

Definition

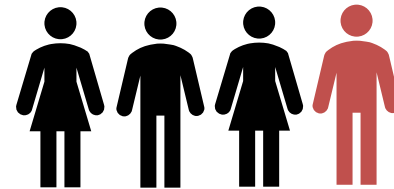
- Food insecurity is a state of uncertain or limited access to food.
- A food insecure person may or may not experience hunger.

Lincoln County

- 14.9% of total population is food insecure



- 24.5% of children are food insecure



- Total: 4,970 adults and 1,970 children

What Contributes to Food Insecurity in Lincoln County?

- High food costs
- Low average wages
 - \$11.59/hr (2018)
- High housing costs
 - 25% of all renters pay more than half their monthly income on rent (includes 62.5% of low-income renters)
- Lack of transportation and affordable childcare
- Food deserts
 - In rural areas: being 10 miles+ from nearest grocery store or supermarket



Food Retailer Assessment

Overview

- Purpose: to collect data on the local food environment and gain a broader understanding of food insecurity in our county.
- Conducted by Lincoln County Public Health and the CHIP Healthy Lifestyles Work Group

Methods

Methods

- 59 food retailers visited:
 - Mass merchandisers: 6
 - Grocery stores: 16
 - Convenience store/gas station: 25
 - Pharmacy: 6
 - Specialty grocery store: 6



■ Mass merchandisers ■ Grocery stores
■ Convenience stores ■ Pharmacies
■ Specialty stores

- Data collected on product availability, prices, and built environment.
- Data collection: August 2017 to March 2018



Lincoln County Food Environment Scan Collection Tool

Data Collector: _____

Date of Visit: _____ Start Time: _____ End Time: _____

Store Name: _____ Store ID: _____

Type: Mass Merchandise Grocery Store Convenience/Gas Pharmacy Specialty Grocery

Hours: _____

WIC Accepted Here: Yes No SNAP Accepted Here: Yes No

Bike racks near entrance: Yes No

Sidewalks leading to store: Yes No

With ramps: Yes No

Pedestrian crossing in parking lot: Yes No

PRODUCTS	PRICE	PLACEMENT
Fruit: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh/raw products <input type="checkbox"/> 100% fruit juice <input type="checkbox"/> Frozen or canned fruit # of Types: <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6+	1 <u>lb</u> bananas: _____ 1 <u>lb</u> apples: _____ 1 <u>lb</u> oranges: _____	
Vegetables: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh/raw products <input type="checkbox"/> Frozen or canned vegetables # of Types: <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6+	1 <u>lb</u> carrots: _____ 1 <u>lb</u> broccoli: _____ 1 <u>lb</u> tomatoes: _____	
Dairy products: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Low-fat options # of Types: <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6+	½ gal milk: _____ 1 gal milk: _____ 8 oz cheese: _____	
Grains: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Whole grain options # of Types: <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6+	1 <u>lb</u> rice: _____ 1 loaf of bread: _____ 1 <u>lb</u> bag of tortillas: _____ 1 <u>lb</u> box pasta: _____	
Proteins: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Lean options	1 <u>doz</u> eggs: _____	

<input type="checkbox"/> Low-sodium options # of Types: <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6+	15 oz can black beans: _____ 1 <u>lb</u> chicken breast: _____	
Frozen meals: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Lean options available		
Snack food: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	1 oz/10.5 oz bag of chips: _____ 12 oz/2 L bottle soda: _____ 3 oz candy bar: _____	
Alcohol: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N		
Lottery material: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Draw games (Keno, Powerball) <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch-its <input type="checkbox"/> Video lottery		
Tobacco products: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Visual health warning signs: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Ads for tobacco products: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Placed 3 ft or under: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Placed near sweets/toys/other kid-friendly items: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Cheapest price for a pack of cigarettes: _____ Most expensive price for a pack of cigarettes: _____	

FIELD NOTES

Results

Fruits and Vegetables

- Less than 1/3 of stores carried fresh fruit or vegetables.
 - No convenience stores carried fresh fruit or vegetables.
- Price differences:
 - Bananas, carrots, tomatoes were 2.5x more expensive at specialty stores than mass merchandisers.
 - Oranges were 2x more expensive at grocery stores than mass merchandisers.



Dairy

- 87% of stores carried dairy products.
 - 73% of stores carried low-fat dairy products.
 - 71% of convenience stores carried low-fat dairy.
- Price differences:
 - A half-gallon of milk was 1.75x more expensive at a convenience store than a mass merchandiser.
 - Milk was 1.5x the price of soda at convenience stores.



Whole Grains

- 59% of stores carried whole grains.
 - Less than 1/3 of convenience stores carried whole grain products.
- Price differences (non whole-grains):
 - Rice was 2.5x more expensive at a convenience store than a mass merchandiser.
 - A loaf of bread was almost 5x the price at a specialty store compared to a mass merchandiser.



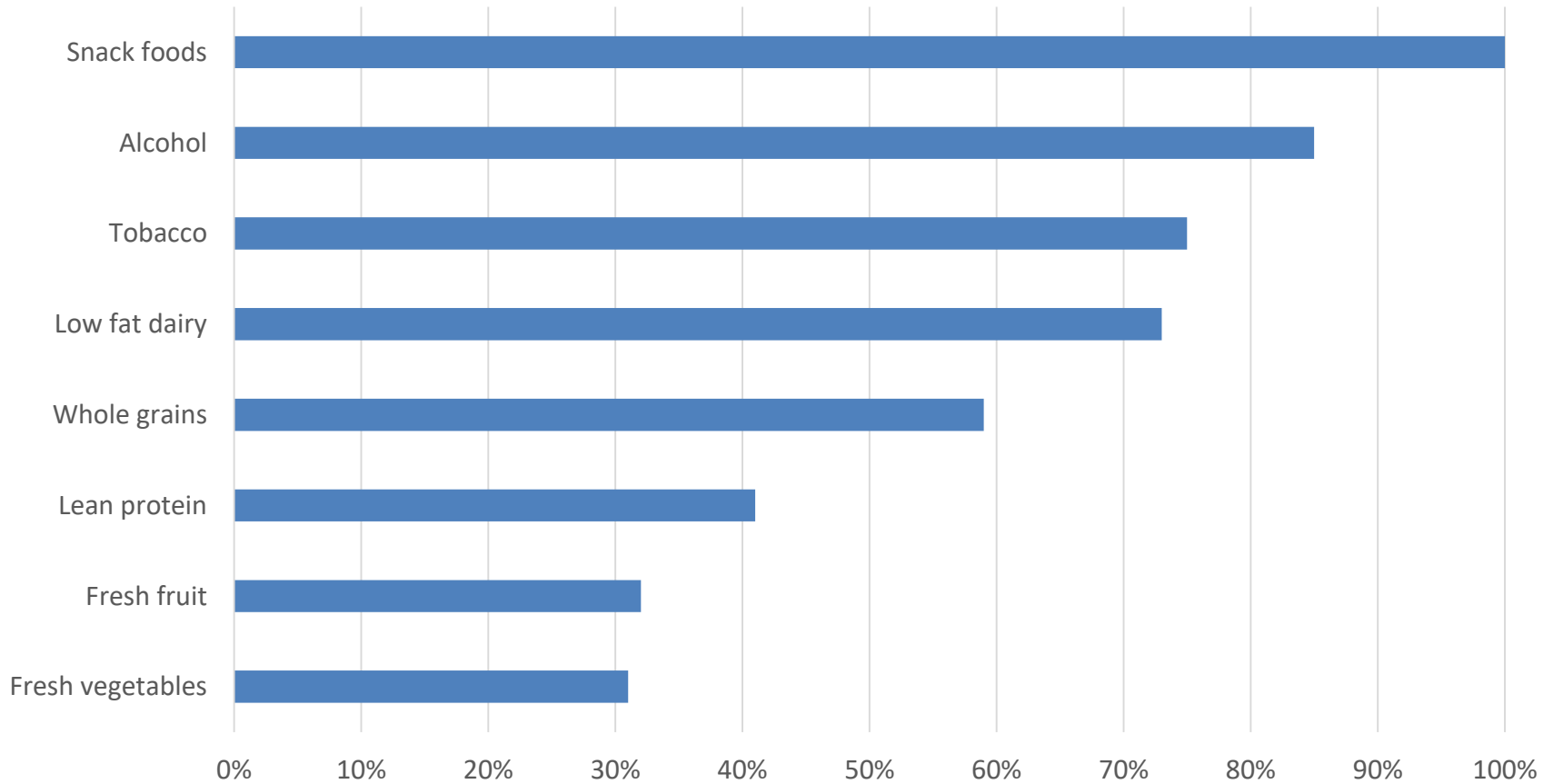
Protein

- 92% of stores carried protein.
 - 61% carried low-sodium protein; 41% carried lean protein.
- Price differences:
 - Beans were 3.25x more expensive in convenience stores than mass merchandisers.
 - In specialty stores, eggs, chicken, and beans were all around 3x as expensive as in mass merchandisers.



Availability Comparison

Availability of Products in Lincoln County Stores



Built Environment

- 5% of retailers had bike racks.
- 19% of retailers had a pedestrian crossing.
- 68% had sidewalks, but only 55% had sidewalk ramps.



Food Assistance Programs


- 75% of retailers accepted SNAP.
- 32% of retailers accepted WIC.



Key Takeaways

- Healthy food can be hard to access, particularly for people without reliable transportation.
- People who rely on convenience stores for their grocery shopping end up paying significantly more for food.
- Families who rely on WIC may struggle to find a store that accepts their benefits.
- People may be unable to access stores due to built-environment factors.

Recommendations

- Increase healthy offerings at convenience stores.
 - Increase number of stores that accept WIC.
 - Improve built environment factors to increase access for people with disabilities and those using active transportation.
 - Reduce prevalence of tobacco and alcohol.
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Next Steps

- Reach out directly to retailers to learn more about barriers they face.
- Gather more detailed information about price, availability, and placement.
- Learn more about what populations are most impacted by food insecurity in Lincoln County.

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Thank You!

Faire Holliday
Health Education Specialist
Lincoln County Public Health
541-265-6611 ext. 3279
fholliday@co.Lincoln.or.us



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