SPATIAL POPULATION AND ASSET REPRESENTATIONS GUIDE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM PLANNING (HOW DO YOU FIND WHAT YOU NEED?)

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## FY'17 EBT at Michigan Farmers Markets Project

- Address food insecurity by improving healthy food access to families in need
- Encourage farmers markets (FM) to accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits
  - 300 FM
  - 139 do not accept SNAP benefits
- Identify areas reaching the greatest number of SNAP eligible families by mapping and analyzing data

#### Method

- Selected geographic level for comparison
- Defined families in need
  - SNAP eligible (income less than 1.85X poverty level)
  - No healthy food retail options such as supermarkets, large grocery stores, or fruit and vegetable stores
- Defined accessible as farmers markets within specified driving/walking distance (buffer)
  - ½-mile radius for urban area
  - 5-mile radius for rural area
- Use geoprocessing to create buffers
- Determined which census tracts were accessible to farmers markets (within or intersecting buffer)

## Analysis – Ranked regions based on

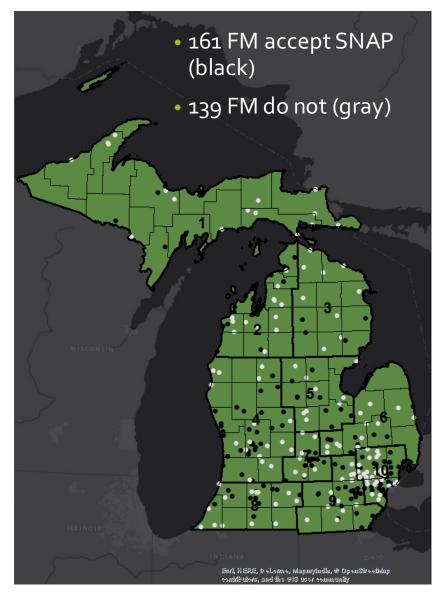
 Estimated number of families eligible for SNAP and accessible to FMs

• Estimated proportion of families eligible for SNAP and accessible to FMs

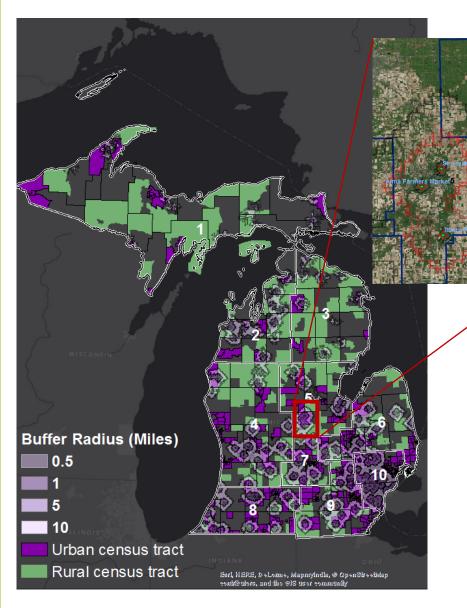
$$Percent = \frac{Estimated \ SNAP \ families}{Total \ estimated \ families} \times 100\%$$

Both





### Families in Need and Accessibility to FM



- Each census tract shown had
  - No healthy food retailers
  - At least one family that was SNAP eligible
- Driving/walking distance was a buffer radius of
  - o.5 mile for urban census tracts
  - 5 miles for rural census tracts

Sources and Resources: Nielsen Business-Fact 2015.2 American Community Survey 5 yr. estimate, 2010-2014 ESRI ArcGIS Platform

# Analysis – Top 3 in 10

|     | Prosperity Region | Estimated number<br>families accessible<br>to FM in Prosperity<br>Region | Estimated number<br>families SNAP<br>eligible accessible to<br>FM in Prosperity<br>Region | Percent |  |
|-----|-------------------|--|---|---------|--|
|     | Region 1          | 10,404   | 3,043   | 29.2%   |  |
|     | Region 2          | 10,673   | 2,723   | 25.5%   |  |
|     | Region 3          | 14,982   | 3.781   | 25.2%   |  |
| ے ا | Region 4          | 30 824   | 7,900   | 25.6%   |  |
| П   | Region 5          | 15,550   | 5,551   | 35.7%   |  |
|     | Region 6          | 14,559   | 3,018   | 20.7%   |  |
|     | Region 7          | 7,274  | 1,475   | 20.3%   |  |
|     | Region 8          | 13,488   | 3,659   | 27.1%   |  |
|     | Region 9          | 19.162   | 3,456   | 18.0%   |  |
|     | Region 10         | 42,353   | 6,993   | 16.5%   |  |

## Findings

- Regions 1, 5, and 8 had the three highest percentages (29.2%, 35.7%, and 27.1%, respectively).
- Regions 4, 5, and 10 had the three highest estimated number of families eligible for SNAP in the Prosperity Region (7,900, 5,551, and 6,993).
- Prosperity Region 5 had the highest percentage and third highest count of families SNAP eligible accessible to farmers markets not accepting SNAP.