Access to Healthy Food Choices
St. Louis Metropolitan Area

Areas of low income, low access* and areas with a substantial number of low access, no vehicle households

*Tracts with >100 Low Access, No Vehicle Households**
Tracts with Low Income, Low Access (1/2 mile urban and 10 miles rural)
Tracts with Low Income, Low Access (1 mile urban and 10 miles rural)

**Low access is defined as residing more than 1 mile (urban tracts) or 10 miles (rural tracts) from a supermarket or large grocery store.

Census tracts are classified as low income using the criteria from the Department of Treasury's New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) Program. All tracts with over 20% poverty are considered low-income tracts, and additional tracts may qualify under other criteria. Census tracts are classified as low access if at least 500 people or 33% of the population reside far from a supermarket or large grocery. The threshold distance is 10 miles for rural tracts, and either 1 mile or 1/2 mile for urban tracts.

Sources: Source: Food Access Research Atlas, United States Department of Agriculture; East-West Gateway Council of Governments July 2014