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Center for a Livable Future

Data Sets for Biostatistics 624 Students

To assist Bio 624 students looking for data sources, we at the Center for a Livable Future (CLF) pulled together this list of ideas. These databases would enable you to conduct analyses relevant to diet, food production, food education, environment and public health, as well as other topics. If you do use one of these databases, no obligation, but we'd love it if you shared your papers with us at the end!

- Roni Neff, PhD, Research Director rneff@jhsph.edu

(Disclaimer: This is not a comprehensive collection of all public access databases on all issues CLF works on, it's just some resources we've collected across time. Also, CLF does not vouch for the quality or user-friendliness of these data sources.)

Maryland Food Map:
The Center for a Livable Future has a geographic tool with a number of different data layers regarding different sectors of the Maryland food system, from stores including those that accept SNAP and WIC, to farms, to emergency food programs, as well as background data such as demographics. These layers are a combination of point data and polygon data (demographics, health stats) which can be analyzed together. Additionally, Healthy Food Availability Index scores exist for all food stores in Baltimore City and are available for further analysis. Contact: Amanda Behrens: abehrens@jhsph.edu

Community Food Assessments:
Baltimore City has six public markets, which have over 4.3 million visits annually. CLF is working with the Baltimore Food Policy Initaitive to increase availability and demand for healthy and fresh foods. In order to better understand Hollins Market clientele's purchasing behaviors, increase consumer demand and community engagement, 122 community food assessments (CFA) were conducted in Fall 2012. Analysis would include, but is not limited to, how places of food purchase influence fruit and vegetable consumption, basic demographic information and demand for foods currently or potentially offered at Hollins Market.
There is a CFA data set from Lexington Market that could be combined with the Hollins Market as comparison. Contact: Anne Palmer: ampalmer@jhsph.edu

US Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service (USDA- ERS)
http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/
Contains links to data on U.S.:
- Diet, Health & Safety/Food and Nutrition Assistance: food cost, food security, food availability, government assistance, foodborne illness, and consumption patterns
- Farm Economy/Food Sector: prices, trade, income, and commodity costs

- Farm Practices & Management/Natural Resources & Environment: organic wholesale prices, adoption of genetically engineered crops, productivity, environmental quality, confined animal manure nutrients, and major land uses
- Policy Topics/Rural Economy: farm employment, rural/urban definitions, and agricultural research funding
- Within USDA, see also: http://www.fas.usda.gov/data.asp for data on agricultural imports and exports.

USDA-NASS Census of Agriculture 2007. The census is conducted every 5 years; data were released in February 2009. Much data collected at national/state/county levels. http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/.

EPA STORET Databases
http://www.epa.gov/storet/dbtop.html
- STORET's query-able data reflects millions of surface and ground water quality samples from EPA across time.

CDC Outbreak Response and Surveillance Team
http://www.cdc.gov/outbreaknet/surveillance_data.html
  Foodborne outbreak surveillance data

U.S. Department of Energy, Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles Data Center
http://www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/data/index.html
- Downloadable excel files on vehicles, fuels, infrastructure, biomass resources, geographic, incentives and laws, clean cities, state and alternative fuel provider fleets, federal fleets.

FAOSTAT
http://faostat.fao.org/
- **"**FAOSTAT provides access to over 3 million time-series and cross sectional data relating to food and agriculture. FAOSTAT contains data for 200 countries and more than 200 primary products and inputs, just in its core. The national version of FAOSTAT, CountrySTAT, is being implemented in about 20 countries and three regions. It offers a two-way bridge amongst sub national, national, regional and international statistics on food and agriculture."
- More specifically, you can find data by country and across time on topics including: food aid; food imports and exports around the world; crops, livestock and fish produced; food consumption; food security; prices, and more.
- "As part of its response to high food prices, FAO has developed an interactive database of staple food prices on national markets in 55 developing countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. http://www.fao.org/giews/pricetool/
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Climate Analysis Indicators Tool (CAIT)
http://cait.wri.org/links.php
- Contains links to international data on:
  o greenhouse gas emissions

- o environmental, social, economic, and development indicators
- o energy use projections and scenarios

Food and Water Watch
http://www.factoryfarmmap.org/
- ▪ Factory farm database/map

Center for Science in the Public Interest
- ▪ Food safety outbreak database http://www.cspinet.org/foodsafety/outbreak/pathogen.php

USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference
http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=8964

Dominick's database covers store-level scanner data collected at Dominick's Finer Foods over a period of more than seven years.
http://research.chicagobooth.edu/marketing/databases/dominicks/dataset.aspx

Also…other lists of data sources -- use your own judgment as to source reliability/accuracy!
http://www.datawrangling.com/some-datasets-available-on-the-web
http://www.infochimps.com/tags/food?page=1
https://wikis.uit.tufts.edu/confluence/display/GISatTufts/Food