

What's in Store?

The chart below lists three different retail categories where you can purchase food and a series of questions/characteristics about each. Complete the chart. Then answer the questions that follow.

My community is (check one): rural urban suburban

	GROCERY STORE/ SUPERMARKET	CONVENIENCE STORE	FAST FOOD RESTAURANT
Example closest to my home			
Approximate distance from home			
Are there healthy options such as fresh fruit, vegetables, low-fat milk products, whole wheat products, and lean meats?			
Rank from 1 to 10 (1 = expensive and 10 = economical)			
How many of these are in a one-mile radius of your home?			

1. Would you characterize your community as a food desert? Why or why not?

2. If possible, research and compare the availability and cost of at least three staple items at each of the retailers you listed above. The items could be a loaf of bread (preferably whole wheat), a gallon of milk (preferably low-fat), a piece of fresh fruit, a head of lettuce, a half-gallon of orange juice, etc. What conclusions can you draw from your research? What light do your findings shed, if any, on the impact of living in a food desert?