



A Snapshot of the St. Louis Regional Foodshed in 2017

100 mile radius of St. Louis:

- **Location and population:** This 100 mile radius of St. Louis is home to about 4 million people.
- **Consumer Spending:** In 2017, St. Louis Regional Foodshed residents spent \$20.2 bil on food.¹
- **Dollars in the Hands of Farmers:** In 2017, farmers received a mere **7.8 cents** for every “food dollar” spent.²
- **Employment:** In 2017, the Foodshed employed only 25,193 *hired* farm workers³, or 0.79% of the Foodshed’s adult population.⁴
- **Poor Diet:** Overall, Foodshed residents are eating more food than previous generations but still not getting proper nutrition.
- **Poor Health:** Of the total Foodshed population in 2016, 8.57% was diabetic and 23.79% was obese.⁵
- In 2017, 80.7% of the Foodshed’s cropland produced **corn and soy** and 93.6% of the cropland produced crops used mostly for livestock feed, processed food ingredients, and ethanol.⁶
- **Less than 0.05%** of the Foodshed’s cropland produced fruits and vegetables in 2017!⁷
- **Limited Healthy Food Access:** Current production trends and policies often decrease access to healthy, affordable food options.
- Meanwhile, 543,150 people, or 13.4% of the Foodshed population, were **food insecure** in 2017.⁸ In the same year, 276,824 food insecure people, or 6.8% of the Foodshed population, were below **the low threshold for poverty**.

For more information on the St. Louis Regional Food Study, visit www.moenvironment.org/stlfoodshed.

¹ Econ. Research Serv., U.S. Dep’t of Agric., *Food Expenditures*, <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-expenditure-series/> (download “Normalized food expenditures by all purchasers and household final users” and use “Nominal expenditure per capita” for All Purchasers).

² Econ. Research Serv., U.S. Dep’t of Agric., *Food Dollar Series Data*, <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-dollar-series/download-the-data.aspx> (download “Food Dollar Nominal Data”)

³ 2017 County Data from U.S. Census of Agriculture (2019). “Hired” is emphasized because there are also statistics for “unpaid” farm workers.

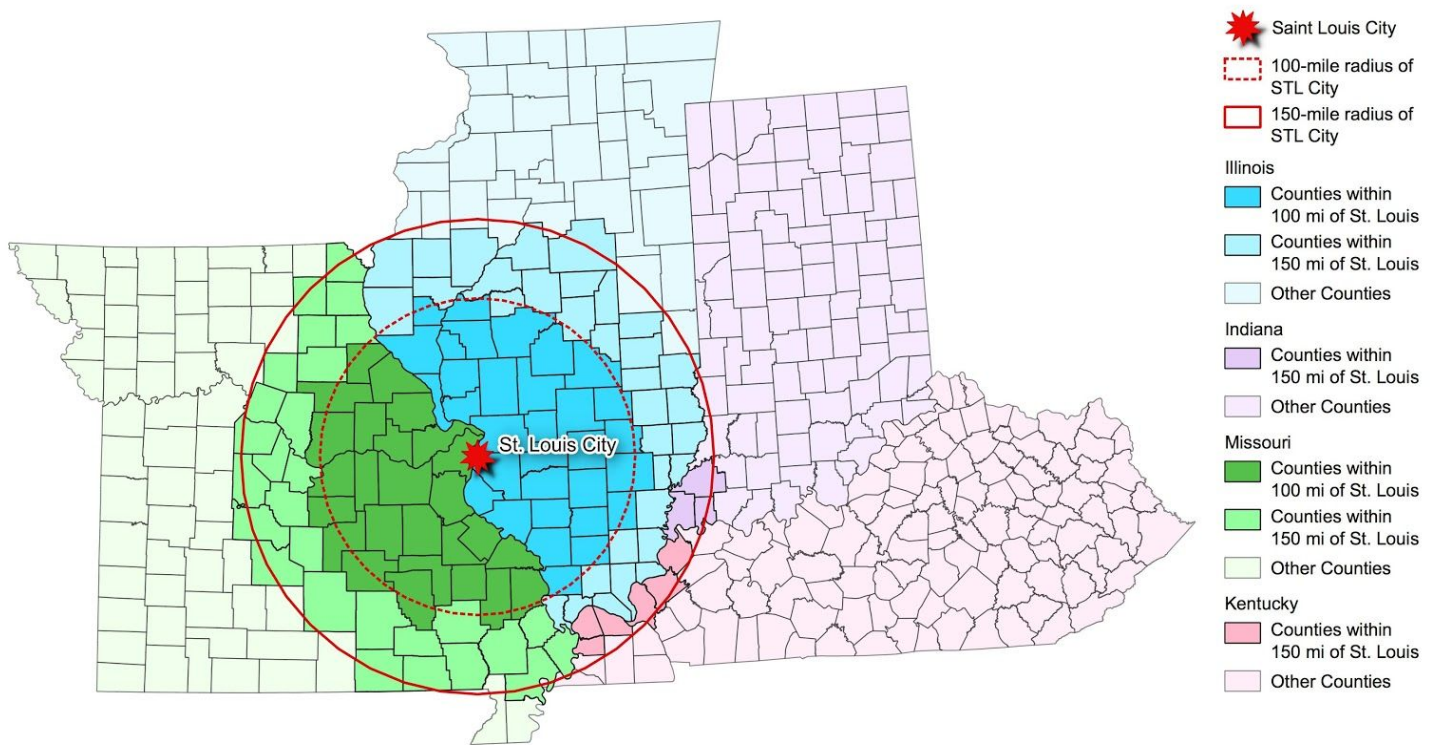
⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, *QuickFacts*, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045218> (search for county and select “Age and Sex” topic). Adult population represents estimated number of persons 18 years old or over.

⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Diabetes Atlas*, <https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/diabetes/DiabetesAtlas.html> (select state from “County Data” under “All States” dropdown menu and filter data under “Data Filters” dropdown menu; select state from “county Data” under “All States” dropdown menu, select “Obesity” under “Risk Factors for Diabetes” under “Indicators” dropdown menu and filter data under “Data Filters” dropdown menu).

⁶ *Quick Stats Database*, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, <http://quickstats.nass.usda.gov/> (used USDA Census of Agriculture county level data to calculate total cropland acreage by crop type in the Foodshed).

⁷ See *Quick Stats Database*, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

⁸ *Map the Meal Gap 2019: Overall Food Insecurity by County in 2017*, https://public.tableau.com/profile/feeding.america.research#!/vizhome/2017StateWorkbook-Public_15568266651950/CountyDetailDataPublic



150 mile radius of St. Louis:

- **Location and population:** This 150 mile radius of St. Louis is home to **over 6 million people**.
- **Consumer Spending:** In 2017, St. Louis Regional Foodshed residents spent **\$30.5 bil on food**.⁹
- **Dollars in the Hands of Farmers:** In 2017, farmers received a mere **7.8 cents** for every “food dollar” spent.¹⁰
- **Employment:** In 2017, the Foodshed employed only 50,230 *hired* farm workers¹¹, or **1.03%** of the Foodshed’s adult population.¹²
- **Poor Health:** Of the total Foodshed population in 2016, 8.73% was diabetic and 24.21% was obese.¹³
- In 2017, 80.9% of the Foodshed’s cropland produced **corn and soy** and 92.9% of the cropland produced crops used mostly for livestock feed, processed food ingredients, and ethanol.¹⁴
- **Less than two tenths of one percent** of the Foodshed’s cropland produced fruits and vegetables in 2017!¹⁵
- **Limited Healthy Food Access:** Current production trends and policies often decrease access to healthy, affordable food options.
- Meanwhile, 822,220 people, or **13.4%** of the Foodshed population, were **food insecure** in 2017.¹⁶ In the same year, 437,485 food insecure people, or **7.1%** of the Foodshed population, were below **the low threshold for poverty**.

⁹ Econ. Research Serv., U.S. Dep’t of Agric., *Food Expenditures*.

¹⁰ Econ. Research Serv., U.S. Dep’t of Agric., *Food Dollar Series Data*.

¹¹ See *Quick Stats Database*, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

¹² U.S. Census Bureau, *QuickFacts*.

¹³ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, *Diabetes Atlas*.

¹⁴ See *Quick Stats Database*, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

¹⁵ See *Quick Stats Database*, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

¹⁶ *Map the Meal Gap 2019: Overall Food Insecurity in Missouri by County in 2017*.