

Limited Food Access in OK: Implications, Consequences and Potential Solutions

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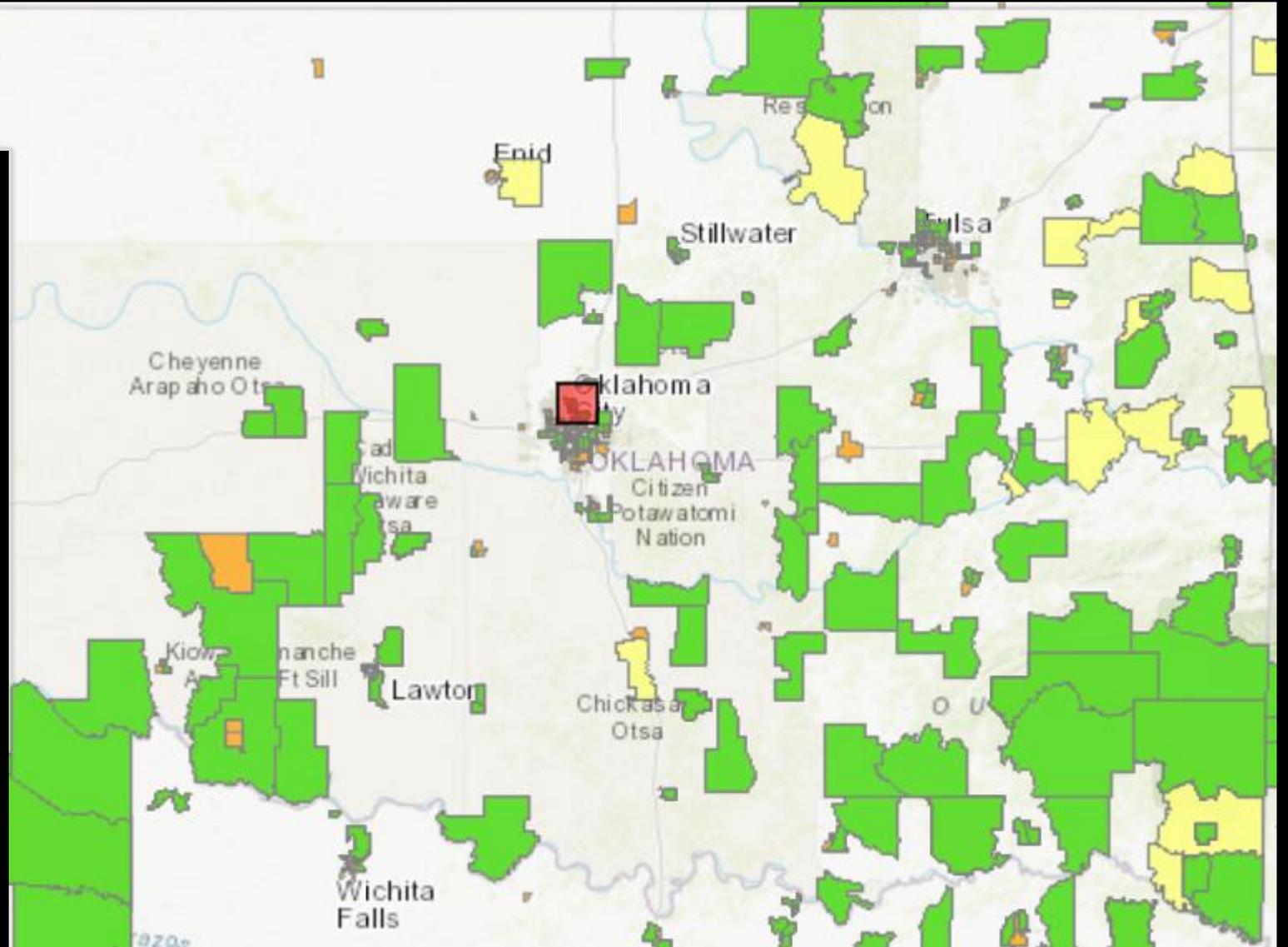
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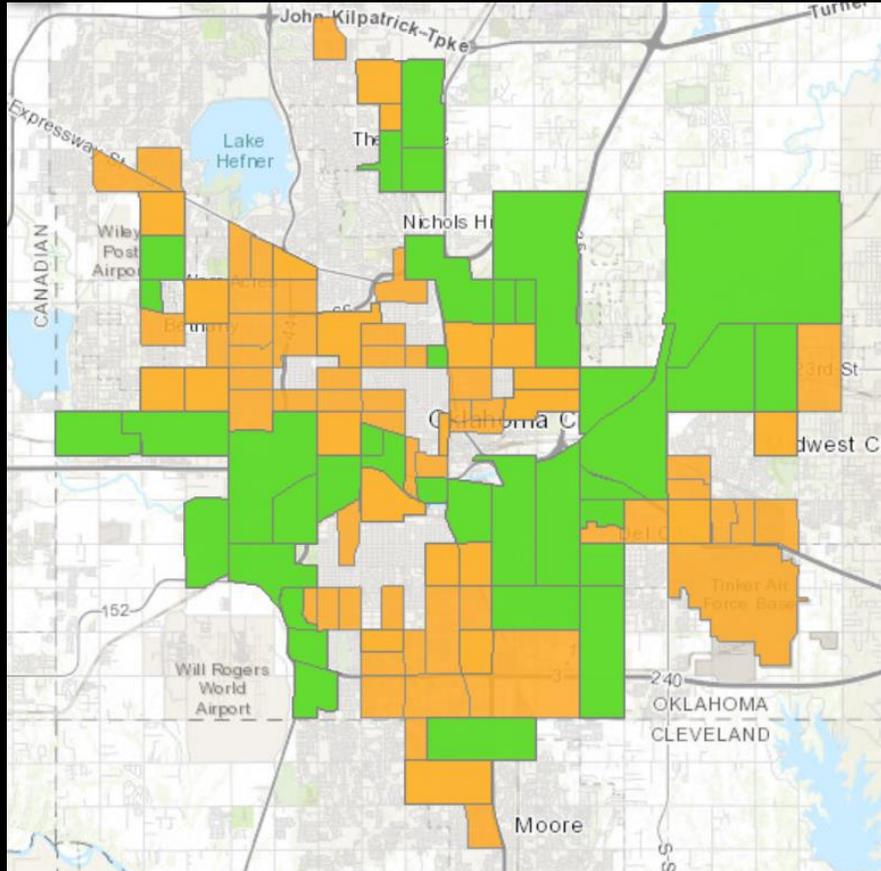


Low Income & Low Access Layers 2015

- LI and LA at 1 and 10 miles ■
- LI and LA at 1/2 and 10 miles ■
- LI and LA at 1 and 20 miles ■
- LI and LA using vehicle access ■



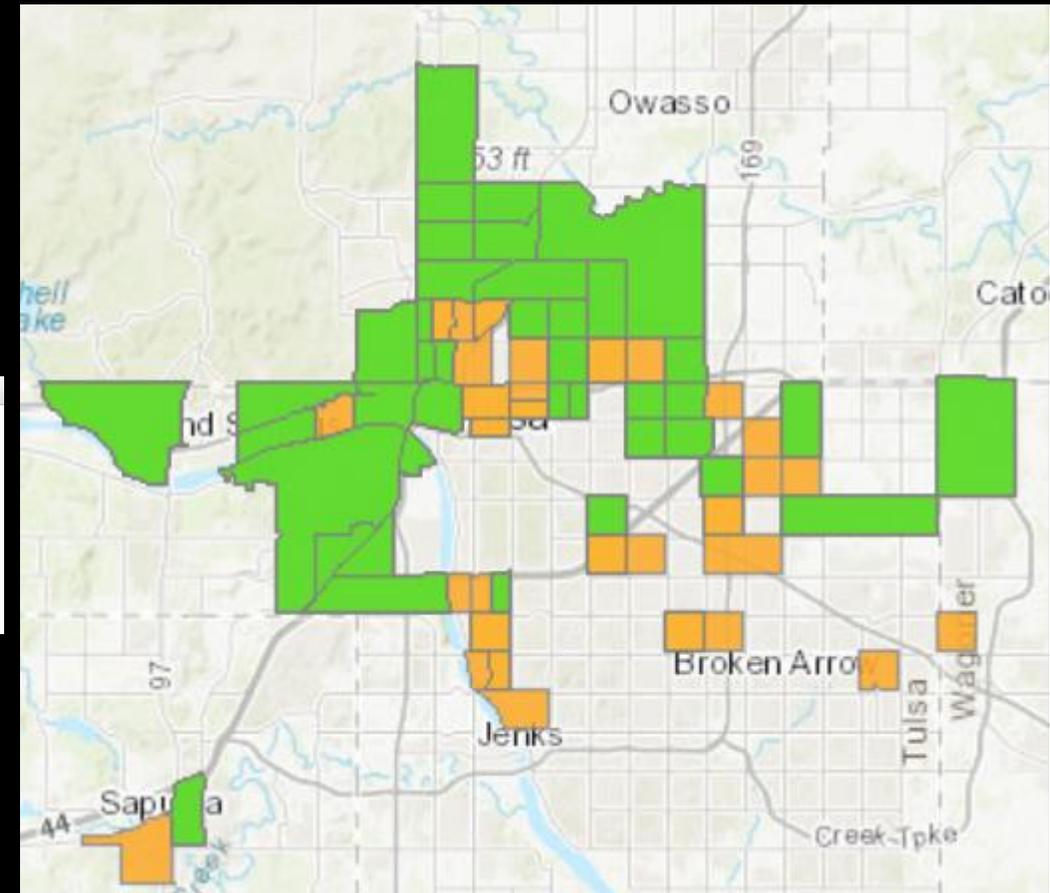
Source: USDA ERS Food Access Research Atlas; <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas/>



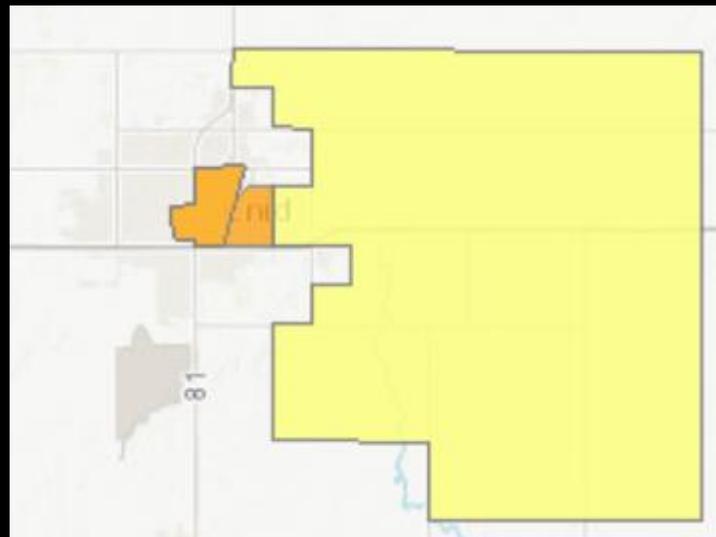
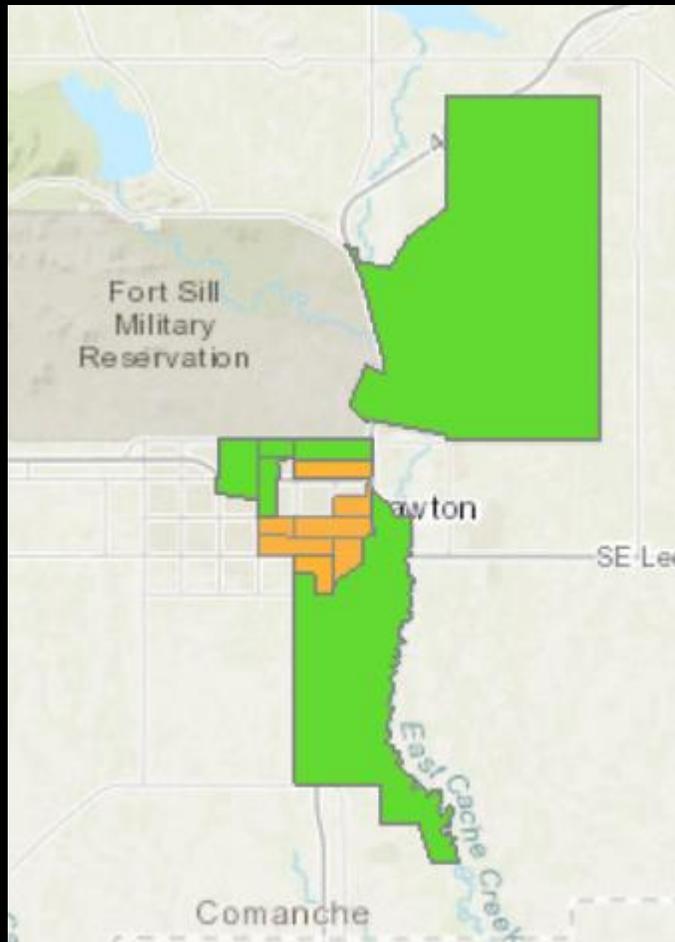
Oklahoma City

▼ Low Income & Low Access Layers 2015

LI and LA at 1 and 10 miles ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	■
LI and LA at 1/2 and 10 miles ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	■
LI and LA at 1 and 20 miles ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	■
LI and LA using vehicle access ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	■

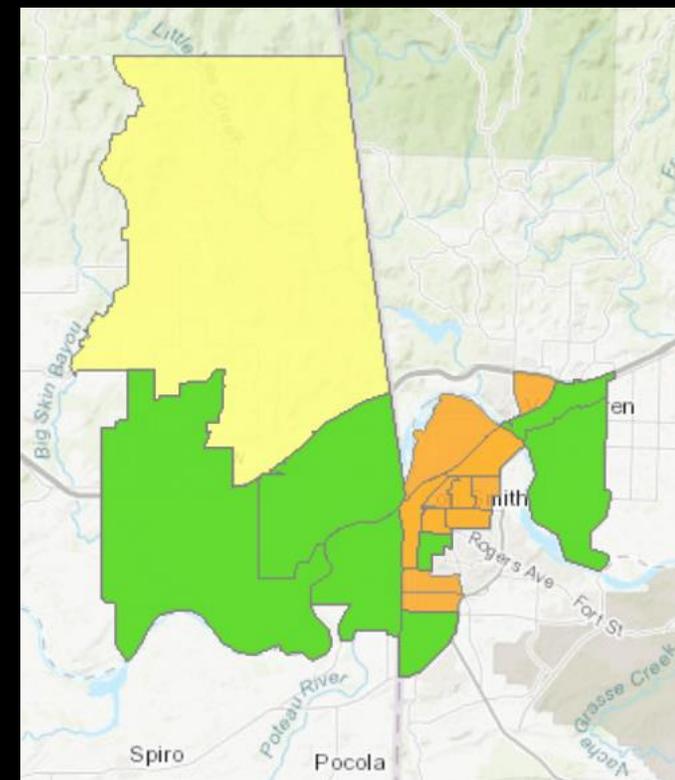


Lawton



Enid

Fort Smith



▼ Low Income & Low Access Layers 2015

LI and LA at 1 and 10 miles ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Green
LI and LA at 1/2 and 10 miles ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Orange
LI and LA at 1 and 20 miles ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red
LI and LA using vehicle access ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yellow



Source: USDA ERS Food Access Research Atlas; <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas/>

Food Access, Income and Race/Ethnicity

- Research has demonstrated a high correlation between limited food access and high densities of:
 - Low-income households
 - Racial and ethnic minorities
- The issue of food access disproportionately impacts these low-resource households
- American Planning Association notes that “Food access is not simply a health issue but also a community development and equity issue.”



Implications for Limited Food Access

- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) education is offered in Oklahoma and Tulsa Counties
- Studies have also shown that small incentives given to SNAP recipients to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables led to disproportionately large sales at farmers markets
- Higher risks for chronic diseases like high blood pressure, diabetes and cancer, not just for individuals but for entire neighborhoods
- One study found that greater access to full-service restaurants and groceries stores led to lower obesity and diabetes rates



Resources to Address Limited Food Access

- OK Small Business Development Center's partnership with OSU Extension: Farmers Market Manager Training, Local Food Matchup
- Oklahoma County Extension Office:
 - Located in the heart of NE OKC (most unhealthy zip code in OK County)
 - Demonstration greenhouse, teaching and community gardens
 - Partnerships with Jesus House, Restore OKC, etc.
- Tulsa County Extension Office:
 - Partnership with Tulsa County Department of Health
 - Annual Market Garden School (2019 Hosted by Langston University – Tulsa)



Opportunities to expand programs

- Urban and small farm horticulture specialist
- School-based programs on gardens and farming
- Food preparation and preservation programming
- Food and agriculture enterprise development

