



DISTRIBUTION

Research Goal

Identify local food distribution networks to increase markets for regional producers, with a focus on exploring opportunities in low-income communities.



Defining Terms

1. Regional Markets – places in which locally produce food is sold, including Food Outlets, Institutions, and Local Food Processors.
2. Local Food Leakage – occurs when food that is grown in a certain region is consumed, or processed and then consumed, outside of that region

Objective	Strategy
1. To understand food distribution in the Greater Capital Region.	Identify food distributors in the region and what they are distributing. Identify food distributors who buy locally grown food and sell to <u>regional markets</u> ¹ . Identify gaps and opportunities in the regional food distribution network.
2. To identify local food which is being distributed outside of the regional foodshed.	Case study of economic impact of <u>local food leakage</u> ² .
3. To assess the barriers and gaps in locally grown regional food distribution networks.	Interview local food producers, distributors, and buyers to understand the challenges they face in selling or buying locally grown foods.
4. To identify economic development opportunities for locally grown regional food distribution, with a focus on exploring opportunities to increase food access for low-income consumers.	Determine markets and market levels for locally grown regional food distribution and explore economic viability of business and non-profit distribution models.

