The purpose of the HCFFC is to integrate all departments of the County as well as a diverse group of public and private stakeholders in a collaborative effort to:

• Improve access to locally grown, healthy foods;

• Develop strategies to ensure community residents are able to obtain a safe, culturally acceptable and nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance;

• Provide a forum to bring together stakeholders from diverse food-related sectors for discussion and coordination for community wide efforts to improve access to local food, examine how food systems operate, and to develop solutions to improve it.

In the Fall of 2016, the Harvey County Food & Farm Council conducted a community food survey. The sixteen question survey was distributed by email, Facebook, the Harvey County Health Department, Harvey County senior centers, worksites, libraries and various community organizations. Four hundred eighty-nine surveys were returned from the approximate 13,500 households in Harvey County. This report summarizes information about the food system in Harvey County and is one of the Council's first steps in improving access to locally grown foods.
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What is a Food System?

Food System: "the sum of all activities required to make food available to people" – Oregon Food Bank

Credit: Douglas County Food Policy Council and Kansas Alliance for Wellness
### Population by Age

- **AGE 0-17**: 25%
- **AGE 18-64**: 57%
- **AGE 65+**: 17%

**Total Population**: 34,797 people

**Children**: 8,791 people

**Adults**: 19,982 people

**Seniors**: 6,024 people

**Data Source**: Community Commons. Original data from US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2010-14.

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### Harvey County Cities by Population Size

1. Newton
2. Hesston
3. Halstead
4. North Newton
5. Sedgwick (partially in Harvey County)
6. Burpton
7. Walton

**Data Source**: 2010 U.S. Census

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### Data

- **In 2015, 13.5% of children birth through 17 years of age were living below the U.S. poverty threshold in Harvey County.**
- **In 2017, 48.8% of public school students were participating in the School Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program.**
- **91.4% of the county population identified themselves as "White."**

**Data Sources**: U.S. Census Bureau. Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates; Kansas State Department of Education; 2010 U.S. Census

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### Population by Age

- **Women**: 1,218 females
- **Males**: 419 males

**Data Sources**: 2010 U.S. Census
4 Farming and Food Production

Data Source:
U.S. Census of Agriculture, 2012
Farms by Primary Activity

Data Source: 2012 U.S. Census of Agriculture
The Value of Agriculture in Harvey County

Agriculture, Food & Food Processing Sectors

Employ more than 4,500 people
Contribute more than $1 billion to the county economy

744 Farms in Harvey County account for more than 339,500 acres.

Data Source: Kansas Department of Agriculture

Fresh produce at the Harvey County Farmer's Market

Photo Credit: Scott Eckert, Harvey County KSRE
At the state and county levels, information about consumers’ fruit and vegetable consumption are monitored as part of the annual Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey.

For more information see www.kdheks.gov/b rfss

**Data Source:**
Kansas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, 2013, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Harvey County Residents SPEND

$92 million PER YEAR ON FOOD

which equals

$6,817 per household annually

OR

$568 per household monthly


These data reflect the actual dollars spent by Harvey County residents—the purchases may have taken place outside of Harvey County borders.
"The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), provides qualifying low-income households with food benefits. It provides crucial support to elderly households, to low-income individuals with disabilities, to low-income working households, to other low income households that include the unemployed and to households transitioning from welfare to work".

–www.DCF.KS.gov and Kansas Department for Children and Families

IN HARVEY COUNTY, DURING 2016

2,676 persons each received food assistance averaging about $110 per month.

That is an annual total of

$3,547,364

Data Source: Kansas Department for Children and Families, 2016.

OF KANSAS SNAP PARTICIPANTS

MORE THAN 75% are in families with children.

ALMOST 32% are in families with members who are elderly or have disabilities.

ALMOST 49% are in working families.

Data Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA food and Nutrition Service, FY 2015.
How often are evening meals eaten at home?
Percentages of 479 responses

Harvey County Community Food Survey Results

The following information is a summary of the data received in our food assessment survey in the Fall of 2016. Four hundred eighty-nine surveys were returned.

For more information see HarveyFoodFarm.com

How often are evening meals eaten at home?
Percentages of 479 responses

- **Nightly**: 38.6%
- **1-3 times per week**: 52.2%
- **3-6 times per week**: 7.0%
- **Monthly**: 0.6%
- **Other**: 1.6%
When eating out, what type of restaurant is most-often selected?
Percentages of 479 responses

- **National, sit-down chain restaurant**: 16.5%
- **Mom & Pop, locally-owned restaurant**: 38.8%
- **Fast Food**: 30.5%
- **Buffet**: 4.2%
- **Other**: 10.0%

Thinking of yourself, how often do you eat out?
Percentages of 487 responses

- **Daily**: 5.5%
- **Monthly**: 9.4%
- **A few times per month**: 39.6%
- **A few times per week**: 38.4%
- **Other**: 7.0%
Survey Results (continued)

How often do you purchase food at the farmers’ market?
Percentages of 485 responses

- 1 to 2 times per week: 8.5%
- Several times per month: 10.1%
- Several times per season: 32.2%
- Never: 42.5%
- Other: 6.8%

Do you raise or grow your own food?
Percentages of 484 responses

- Vegetables: 52.1%
- Fruit: 16.1%
- Eggs: 13.2%
- Meat: 10.5%
- We do not raise any of our own food: 41.1%
- Other: 7.2%
Survey Results (continued)

How satisfied are you with healthy food options available in Harvey County?
Percentages of 482 responses

- 52.5% Very satisfied
- 18.3% Somewhat satisfied
- 19.3% Somewhat dissatisfied
- 6.8% Very dissatisfied
- 3.1% Other

Per week, how much money does your household spend on food?
Percentages of 480 responses

- $50 to $100 32.5%
- $100 to $200 46.0%
- $200 to $300 13.9%
- $300 or more 4.2%
- Other 3.3%
The Harvey County, Kansas Food Assessment examines the county’s food system from production to consumption.

Funding for the 2016 food assessment survey was provided by the Kansas Health Foundation. The Kansas Health Foundation is a philanthropy dedicated to improving the health of all Kansans. For more information about the Kansas Health Foundation, visit www.kansashealth.org.

Funding for this printed report was provided by the Sunflower Foundation: Health Care for Kansans, a Topeka-based philanthropic organization with the mission to serve as a catalyst for improving the health of Kansans.