

National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health

Wave IV Modified Retail Food Environment Index (mRFEI) Codebook



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Wave IV: Modified Retail Food Environment Index (mRFEI) Codebook

Number of observations: 15,701

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity collected data for the Modified Retail Food Environment Index (mRFEI) in 2008-2009. The mRFEI represents the percentage of healthy food retailers relative to less healthy food retailers within each census tract, including a 0.5 mile buffer around the census tract boundary. The mRFEI uses a standardized index that rates each census tract on a scale of 0 to 100 percent. Healthy and less healthy food retailers are defined by the typical food offerings in specific type of retail stores. Healthy food retailers are defined as supermarkets (50+ annual payroll employees), larger grocery stores (10-49 employees), supercenters, and produce stores (including stands, permanent stands, markets, and permanent markets). Less healthy food retailers are defined as fast food restaurants, small grocery stores, and convenience stores.

The formula for the mRFEI is calculated for each census tract using the following formula:

$$\text{mRFEI} = 100 \times \frac{\# \text{ Healthy Food Retailers}}{\# \text{ Healthy Food Retailers} + \# \text{ Less Healthy Food Retailers}}$$

To provide the mRFEI for each respondent, the mRFEI locations were linked to Wave IV respondent locations.

Respondent Identifier		AID	char 8
15,701		range 10000000 to 99999999	

Modified Retail Food Environment Index (mRFEI)		W4MRFEI	num 3
15,604		range 0 to 69	
22	70	70 and above	
70	996	missing in source data	
5	998	geocode missing	