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Introduction

The New Jersey Farmland Assessment Act is responsible for "permits farmland and woodland acres that are actively devoted to an agricultural or horticultural use to be assessed at their productivity value" (Farmland Assessment Overview).



FIGURE A/B: City Green, Clifton, NJ, <http://www.citygreenonline.org/>.

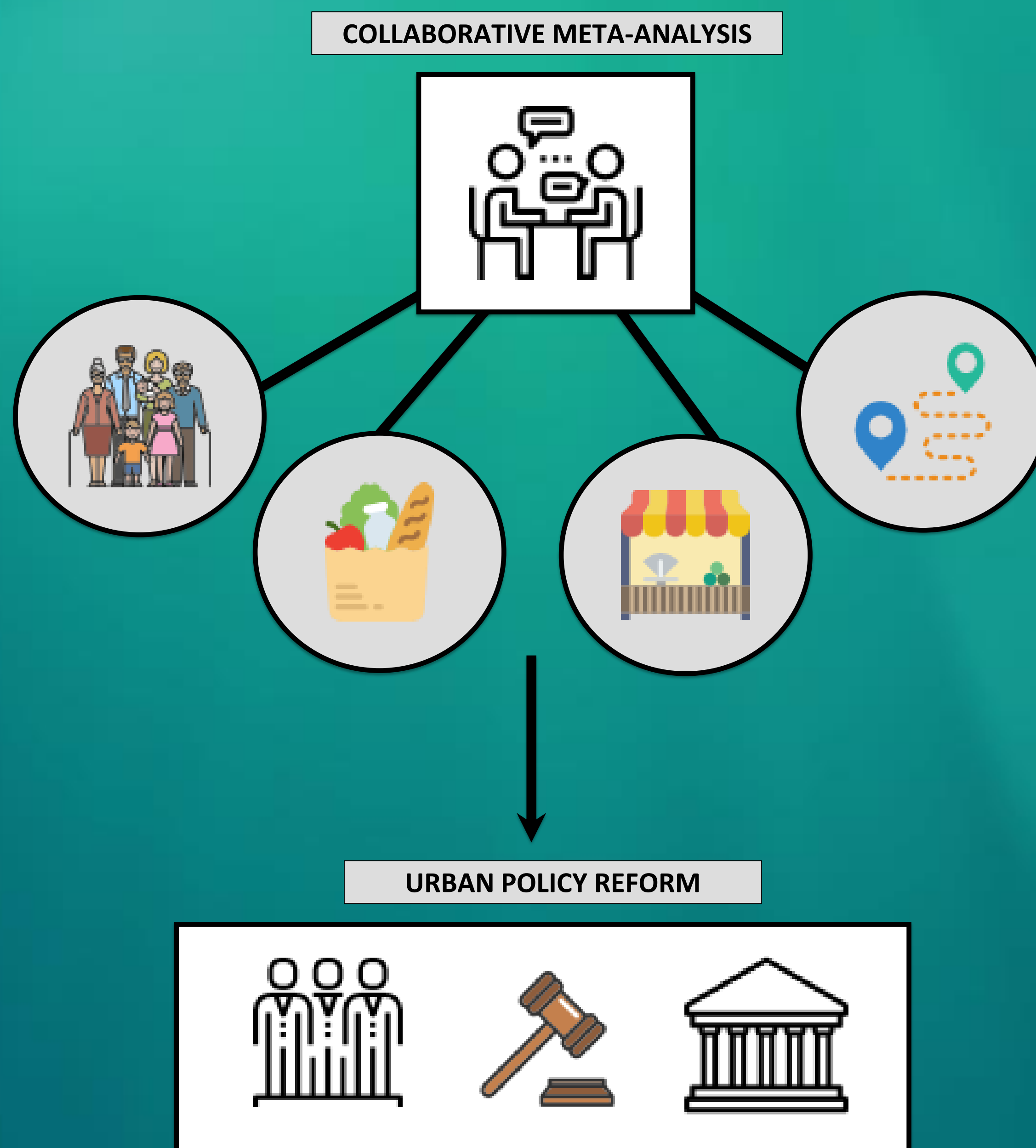
As of now the act creates commercial sale barriers to urban farmers' markets through the 'Five-Acre' Rule, where a farm is not considered a farm unless it consists of five contiguous acres, among other additional requirements.

The purpose of this research project is to propose urban policy reform to make food stamps and other federal assistance vouchers more accessible and allowed for use at New Jersey farmers' markets to expand sales and purchases, while simultaneously increasing fresh produce accessibility in low-income communities.

References

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Methods & Discussion



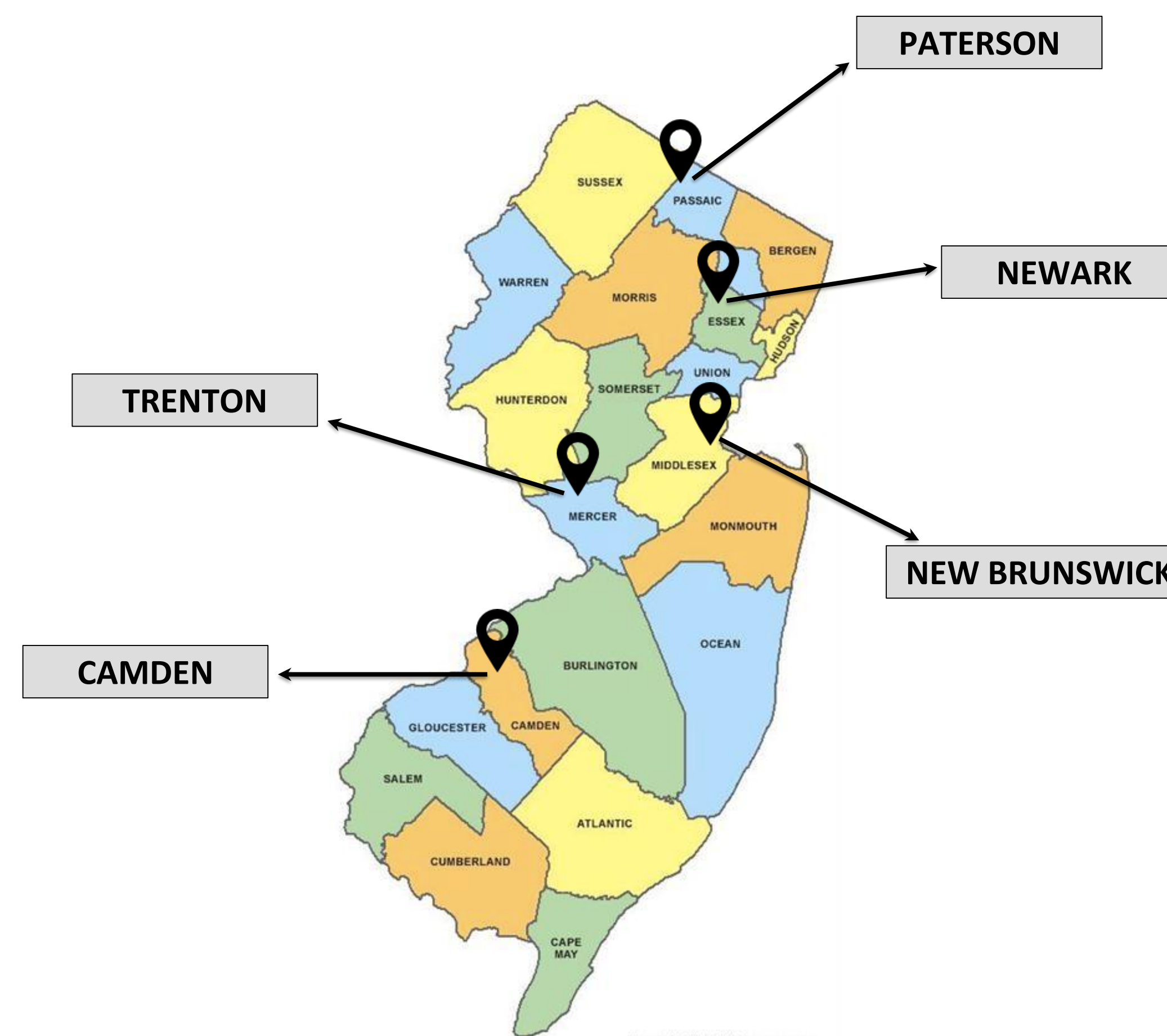
Results

From the meta-analysis, the preliminary results gathered showed the following:

- SNAP universally accepted due to entitlement
- WIC/FMN more restricted because it is not an entitlement program
- Establishing a food policy council/department of food would aid in the process of linking government and community initiatives involving food security

Future Work

Complete surveying and evaluating each site in the respective demographic regions of New Jersey and how their communities are impacted by the restrictions of the New Jersey Farmland Assessment Act's 'Five-Acre Rule.'



Future Project: Highlighting the importance of establishing a New Jersey Food Policy council and/or Department of Food by county

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