



FOOD SECURITY:

LOCAL PRODUCTION AND GLOBAL IMPORTS

LEARNING GOALS

- To critically think about the benefits and drawbacks of a globalized food system
- To evaluate the strengths and limitations of local agriculture as a support for resilient food systems.
- To practice drawing connections between local challenges and global contexts and best practices.

ASSIGNMENT

Estimated Time: ~17 min

- Watch "[Local Food Systems](#)" (5:19)
- Watch "[France: The Local Food Movement](#)" (6:00)
- Listen to "[Sustainable Ag Systems with Albie Miles](#)" (5:41) Scroll down to the segment.

TERMINOLOGY

- **Food security** - A measure of the availability, accessibility, quality, and long-term sustainability of food for consumers
- **Food sovereignty** - The right of people to define their own food and its means of production, distribution, and consumption
- **Alternative food systems** - diverse types of agricultural and livestock methods that often produce a variety of products rather than a single species or crop. Alternative food systems contrasts with conventional, modern methods of production that use extensive amounts of chemical pesticides and fertilizers.

KAHOOT QUIZ

- Go to Kahoot.it or use the Kahoot mobile app and enter the pin 07337139
- Or, use [this link](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- According to the video, what are the benefits and limitations of local food production in resolving environmental and food security problems?
- What are the costs and benefits Hawaii's current import-based food system?
- Do you think COVID-19 has changed or should change our idea of what the ideal balance between local production and globalization/imports is?
- Do you know of restaurants or other groups in your community who started selling local groceries like the chef did in the video? How have restaurants influenced the local food movement?



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (continued)

- Do you or anyone you know make an effort to eat locally produced foods? What factors (social, economic, political, cultural) influence that choice?
- Why is agriculture more expensive in Hawaii than in other places?
- In your opinion, how should Hawaii's agricultural industry grow? Should we develop 'conventional' farms in the large, industrial model alongside our existing, mainly organic farms in order to produce more food locally or expand only environmentally sustainable models of agriculture? Or, do you think we do not need to expand agriculture at all?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- ["Can we ever eat all local in Hawaii?"](#) (~13 min)
An article in Honolulu Magazine highlighting several initiatives to increase locally-grown produce in Hawaii.
- ["Food Independence Could Be a Matter of Survival for the US' Most Isolated State"](#) (~11 min)
This article provides an overview of Hawaii's food security situation and identifies several challenges moving forward.
- [La Via Campesina](#)
Mentioned in the first video, this is an international movement advocating for consumer and small producers to work together to establish food sovereignty.

IDEAS FOR ACTION

Easier

- Make a mental note of where your food comes from and consider how this reflects Hawaii's current food system.
- Visit a local farmer's market or farm. Talk to local producers about their thoughts on the role of local agriculture and the benefits and challenges of running a farm in Hawaii.
- Educate yourself: do more research on local agriculture, how the government promotes local production or imports, agriculture development, and other important topics in the field

Medium

- Visit a grocery store like Foodland and ask how they decide where to source their products from. From a retail standpoint, where could the local food industry grow and where do imported foods fulfill a need?
- Find out who is responsible for lunches and food at your school. Where does your school source its food from? Make a map or other visual representation and write an article describing it for your school newspaper.
- Interview an expert on food security like Albie Miles or a Hawaii policymaker and make an informational video to share online or on social media.



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IDEAS FOR ACTION (continued)

Hard

- Policy Advocacy: research bills in the city council and state legislature related to food security, local agriculture, or food imports. Write and submit testimony.
- Research a local farm or food security nonprofit and get involved by volunteering or interning.

HAWAII DOE SUBJECT STANDARDS LINKS (High School)

Hawaii Core Standards for Social Studies (HCSSS)

- Content Standard [SS.WH.8.12.1](#)
- Content Standard [S.US.12.8.1](#)
- Content Standard [SS.US.12.16.2](#)
- Content Standard [SS.MHH.4.9.1](#)
- Content Standard [SS.PID.4.10.2](#)
- Action Projects link to [SS.PID.5.7.1](#)

[National Health Education Standards](#)

- NHES.2.12.10

This lesson was created by Paige Lockwood.