

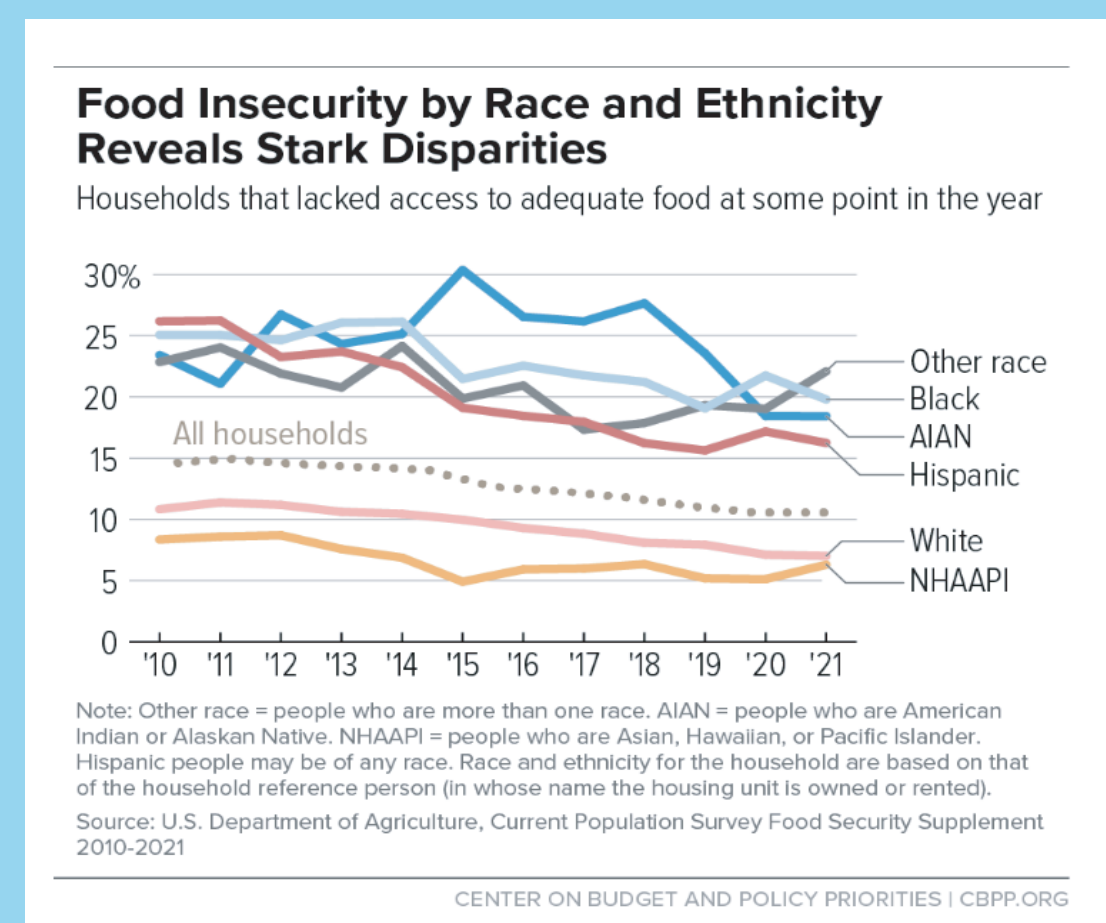
Addressing Food Insecurity: Using Web-Based Tools To Match Food Bank/Pantry Items To Recipes While Minimizing Cost

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Project Statement

When people go to food banks/pantries they may receive an excess amount of one type of food that they don't know how to cook. People receiving low incomes and experiencing food insecurity in Los Angeles need a way to easily match the food they receive from a food bank/pantry to recipes culturally relevant to them that require limited additional ingredients. This project will address the problem by developing a website that uses the users zip code and ingredients they've received from the food bank/pantries to generate a recipe, the location to a store to purchase missing ingredients, and the total cost of making the recipe.

Statistics



One in five people in LA are food insecure, meaning they have trouble providing enough food for themselves and their family. Food insecurity is exacerbated by a number of factors in a person's life, such as education, gender, race, age, and income.



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Free Online Databases Can Solve Problems Within Food Insecurity

Food Bank and Pantry Recipe Generator

Enter a Food:
brown rice

Enter Your Zip Code:
91030

Submit

Cilantro-Chipotle Rice

Missing Ingredients: cilantro, bottled chipotle salsa

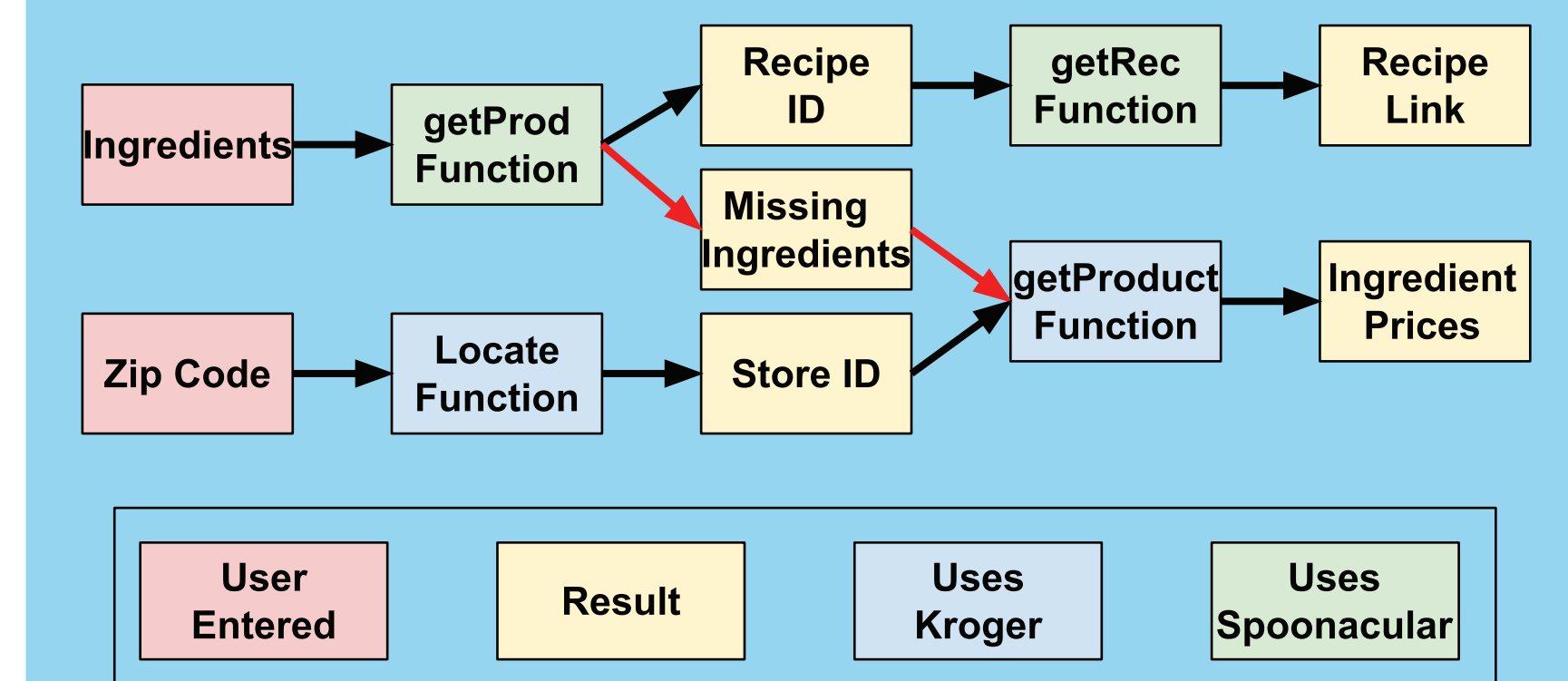
Store: RALPHS

Address:
320 W Colorado Blvd
Pasadena, CA
91105
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Price of Missing Ingredients at Local Store: Gourmet Garden™ Lightly Dried Cilantro: \$4.99, Herdez® Medium Guacamole Salsa: \$4.99

Results	Future Work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One recipe is returned ● Store address and name within 5 mile radius ● Missing ingredients ● Price of missing ingredients at store 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultural parameters implementation using the Spoonacular API method to search within a particular culture ● Alternate suggestions for stores ● Parameters added for the quantity of an ingredient and the number of people the meal should serve

Methods



Spoonacular and Kroger Backend Flowchart. The first Spoonacular function, "getProd," takes a user entered ingredient and searches for recipes that contain the ingredient and as few additional ingredients as possible. The function, titled "Locate", takes a zip code provided by the user and searches for a Kroger Company store within five miles of that zip code. The response provides the name and address of the chosen store. The function called "getProduct," provides the prices for specific items for which users search.

Selected References

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