

Food systems have recently witnessed a resurgence of popularity among planners and policy makers at every level of government. This research project seeks to add to the growing literature and scholarship on food systems in two ways. First, the current state of food systems planning will be analyzed through a content and statistical analysis of over fifty national, state, regional, county, municipal, and local food system plans. Trends, similarities, divergences, and regional factors will be analyzed. Second, a comparative case study will be conducted around the governance of implementation networks associated with two of these plans, one of which is Farm to Plate. Social network analysis and the use of ORA software will be utilized to investigate the way implementors organize to make food system plans a reality.