



3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING —
EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

Texas Statewide Farm to School Initiative

Texas Department of Agriculture | Commissioner Todd Staples
Food & Nutrition Division

Farm to School in Texas: Growth in Recent Years

- * Interagency Farm to School Coordination Task Force
 - * SB 1027 passed in 2009, 81st Legislative Session
 - * Charged to develop a plan to increase availability of local food in schools
 - * Membership included state agencies and stakeholders
- * Report provided to Legislature in 2010
 - * Outlined steps to develop statewide program
 - * Full time employee hired
- * Assists in TDA's goal to promote all Texas agricultural producers



Recent Changes to School Meals

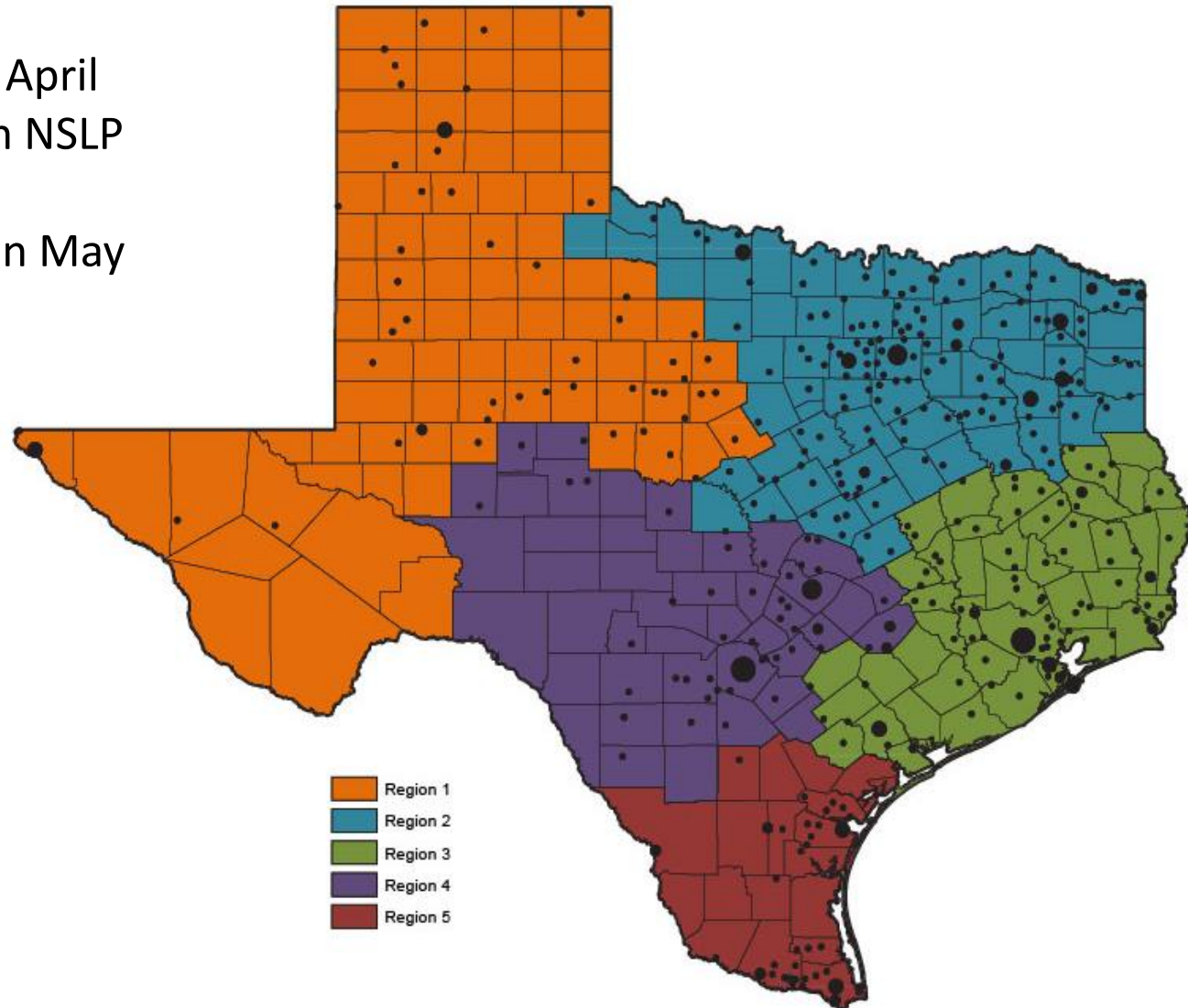


- * USDA New Meal Pattern Regulations released Jan. 25, 2012
 - * Current school year is first time changes are in affect
- * Key changes include:
 - * Increasing fruits and vegetables available
 - * Vegetables must be offered daily at lunch
 - * Fruit must be offered daily at breakfast and lunch
 - * Vegetable subgroups:

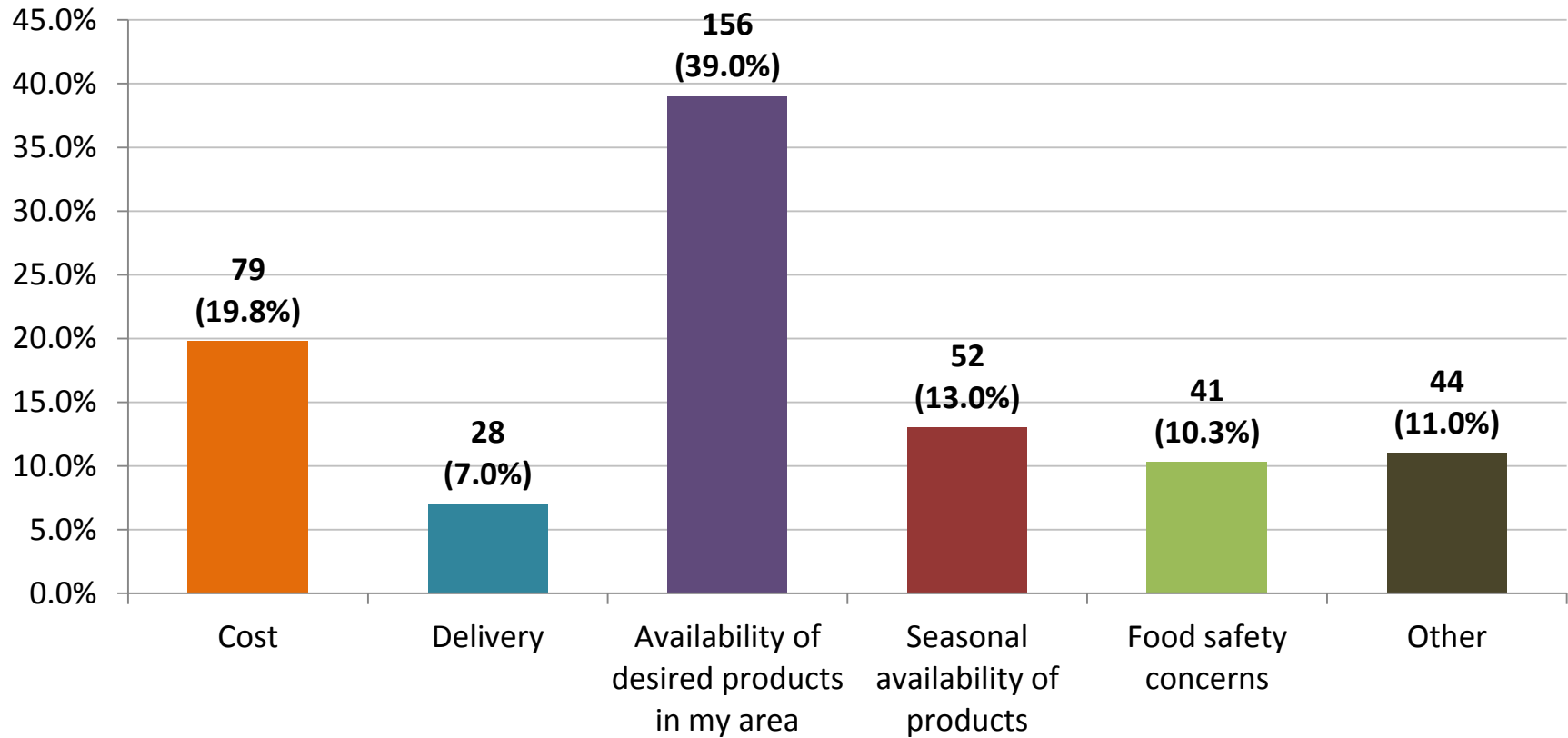
Dark Green	Starchy
Red/Orange	Other
Beans/Peas	

2012 Survey: Methodology, Distribution and Response

- * Online survey released in April to 1,194 CEs participating in NSLP
- * Final responses received in May
- * 457 responses received; 38.27% response rate
- * Map illustrates response locations

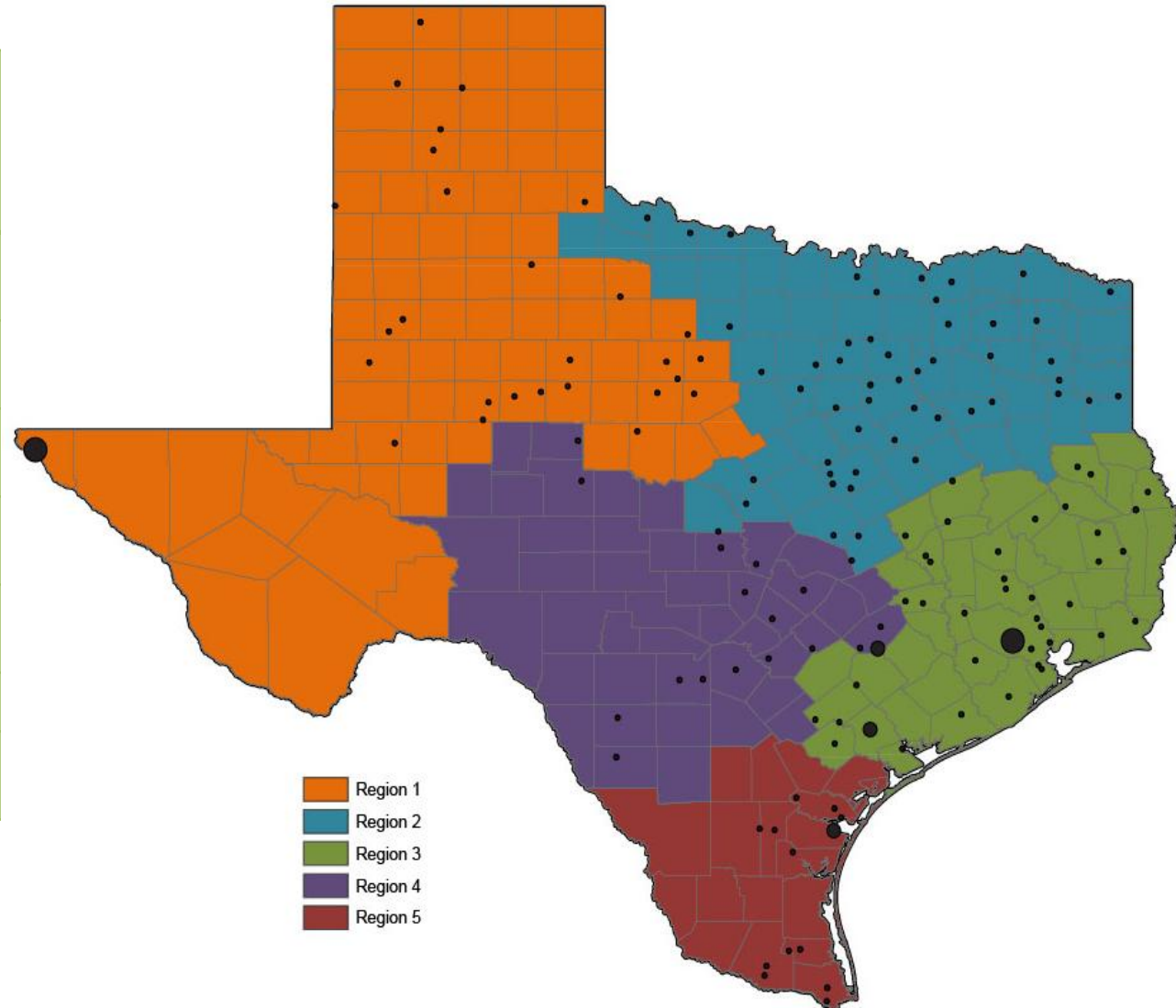


Perceived Barriers to Incorporating Local Products into Menus

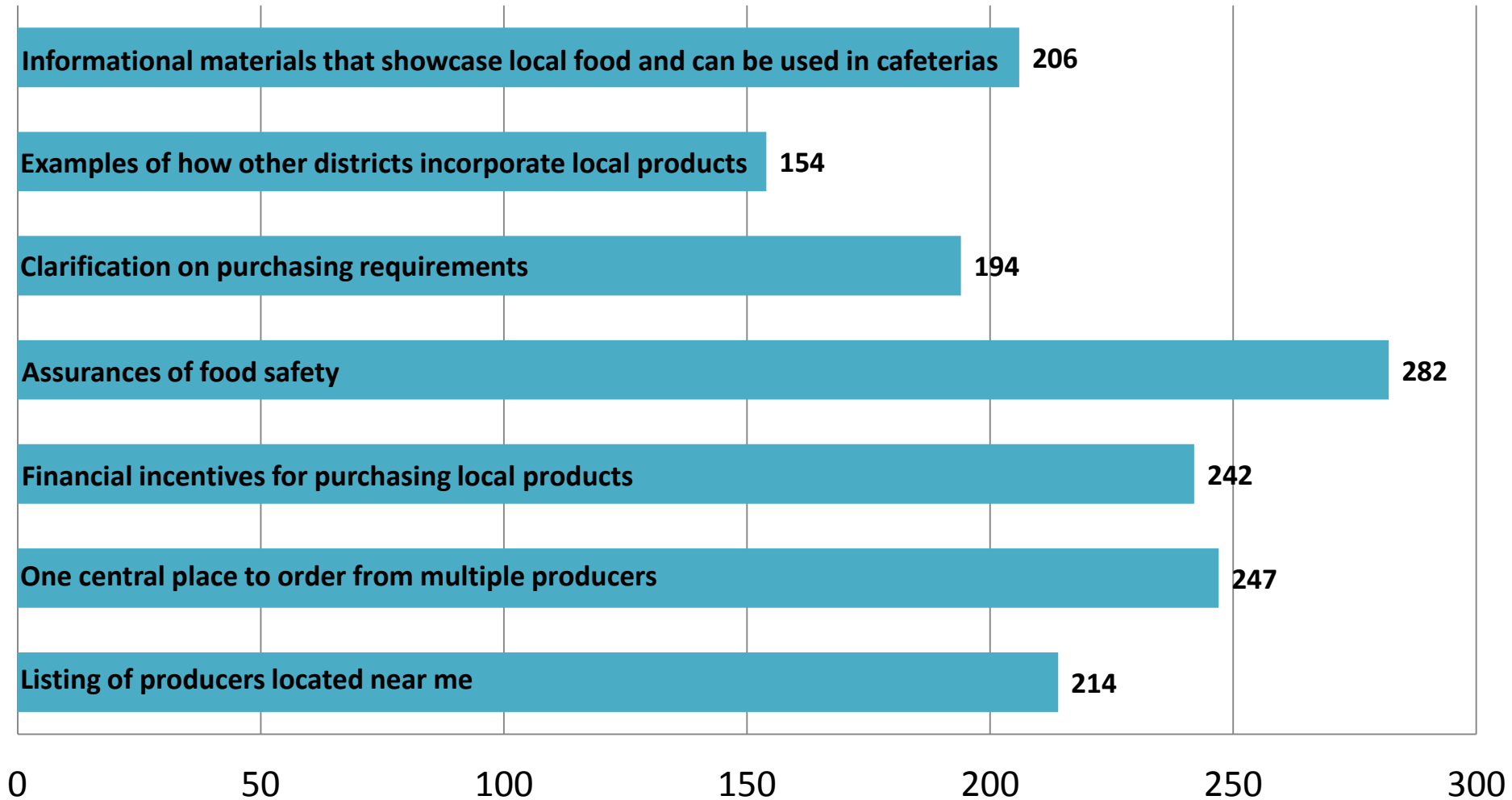


Regional Distribution: Greatest Perceived Barrier — Availability of Products

TDA Region	Number of Responses Received	Percentage of Responses Received
Region 1	28	17.95%
Region 2	52	33.33%
Region 3	45	28.85%
Region 4	17	10.90%
Region 5	14	8.97%
156 responses to question		



Factors to Increase Local Product Purchases: Number Responding as Highly Motivating



n= 400 responses to question

How to Connect with Texas Schools

- * Texas MarketMaker
 - * Free resource that connects agricultural producers and potential buyers
 - * Create a business profile
 - * Indicate interest in Farm to School
 - * Search for schools
 - * www.tx.foodmarketmaker.com



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