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## Retail Leakage and Surplus Analysis

The Retail Leakage and Surplus Analysis examines the quantitative aspect of the community's retail opportunities. It is a guide to understanding retail opportunities but it is not an analysis that indicates unconditional opportunities. The analysis is sometimes called "a gap analysis" or "a supply and demand analysis" and can aid in the following:

- Indicating how well the retail needs of local residents are being met
-Uncovering unmet demand and possible opportunities
- Understanding the strengths and weaknesses of the local retail sector
-Measuring the difference between actual and potential retail sales


## Understanding Retail Leakage

Retail leakage means that residents are spending more for products than local businesses capture. Retail sales leakage suggests that there is unmet demand in the trade area and that the community can support additional store space for that type of business.

However, retail leakage does not necessarily translate into opportunity. For example, there could be a strong competitor in a neighboring community that dominates the market for that type of product or store.

## Understanding Retail Surplus

A retail surplus means that the community's trade area is capturing the local market plus attracting non-local shoppers. A retail surplus does not necessarily mean that the community cannot support additional business. Many communities have developed strong clusters of stores that have broad geographic appeal. Examples of these types of retailers include: sporting goods stores, home furnishing stores, restaurants, and other specialty operations that become destination retailers and draw customers from outside the trade area.

Examining the quantitative aspects (Leakage/Surplus) is only part of the evaluation of community's retail opportunities. Before any conclusions can be drawn about potential business expansion or recruitment opportunities, qualitative considerations such as trade area psychographics and buying habits must be analyzed in context of other market factors.

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## Leakage/Surplus Index by Product

The Leakage/Surplus Index provides a relative comparison of the supply and demand across retail product categories. It is calculated by dividing actual sales by potential sales. An index greater than 1.0 means that the community is attracting retail sales (surplus) from outside the trade area. If the index is less than 1.0 it means that out-shopping is taking place and the community is not successfully drawing its own residents.

Leakage/Surplus Index (Figure 1) shows the strengths and weaknesses of a community's retail market by product.
Figure 1. Leakage/Surplus Index by Product

## Leakage/Surplus Index by Product Category

Grocries and Other Foods
Meals and Snacks
Alcoholic Drinks
Packaged Liquor/Wine/Beer
Cigars, Cigarettes, and Tobacco \& Smokers Accessories
Druss, Health Aids, and Beauty Aids
Soaps, Detergents, and Household Cleaners
Paper and Related Producs
Mens Wear
Womens, Juniors, and Misses Wear
Childrens Wear
Footwe ar
Sewing Knitting, and Needlework Goods Curtains, Draperies, Blinds, Slipcovers etc

Major Household Appliances
Small Electric Appliances
Televisions, Vide o Recorders, Video Cameras Audio Equipment, Musical Instruments, and Supplies Furniture and Sleep Equipment

Flooring \& Floor Coverings
Computer Hardware, Soitware and Supplies
Kitchenware and Home furnishings Jewelry
Books
Photographic Equipment \& Supplies Toys, Hobby Goods, and Games

Optical Goods Sporting Goods
Hardware Tools, and Plumbing and Electrical Supplies Lumber and Building Materials

Paint and Sundries Cars, Trucks, and Other Powered Transportation

Automotive Fuels Automotive Lubricants Pets, Pet Foods, and Pet Supplies All Other Merchandise


The sales potential and the actual sales potential by product category and the resulting index are shown in Figure 2.
Figure 2. Sales Potential and Actual Sales by Product

| Product Type | Potential | Actual Sales | Leakage/Surplus Index |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Groceries and Other Foods | 307,947,929 | 281,538,919 | 0.9 |
| Meals and Snacks | 202,060,224 | 196,437,275 | 1.0 |
| Alcoholic Drinks | 23,821,088 | 15,055,389 | 0.6 |
| Packaged Liquor/Wine/Beer | 39,737,608 | 36,555,841 | 0.9 |
| Cigars, Cigarettes, and Tobacco \& Smokers Accessories | 56,332,052 | 45,374,461 | 0.8 |
| Drugs, Health Aids, and Beauty Aids | 170,065,882 | 118,770,697 | 0.7 |
| Soaps, Detergents, and Household Cleaners | 14,569,847 | 14,956,194 | 1.0 |
| Paper and Related Products | 14,506,225 | 13,952,348 | 1.0 |
| Mens Wear | 40,918,486 | 30,087,991 | 0.7 |
| Womens, Juniors, and Misses Wear | 71,420,835 | 47,286,856 | 0.7 |
| Childrens Wear | 20,704,863 | 17,905,351 | 0.9 |
| Footwear | 30,608,760 | 22,870,372 | 0.7 |
| Sewing, Knitting, and Needlework Goods | 3,718,546 | 3,724,175 | 1.0 |
| Curtains, Draperies, Blinds, Slipcovers etc. | 14,165,006 | 13,820,656 | 1.0 |
| Major Household Appliances | 18,260,436 | 11,704,154 | 0.6 |
| Small Electric Appliances | 6,621,779 | 6,900,863 | 1.0 |
| Televisions, Video Recorders, Video Cameras | 15,978,591 | 12,422,944 | 0.8 |
| Audio Equipment, Musical Instruments, and Supplies | 24,016,746 | 15,639,037 | 0.7 |
| Furniture and Sleep Equipment | 38,702,719 | 21,920,673 | 0.6 |
| Flooring \& Floor Coverings | 18,253,772 | 10,804,014 | 0.6 |
| Computer Hardware, Software and Supplies | 48,849,678 | 15,867,133 | 0.3 |
| Kitchenware and Home furnishings | 30,318,105 | 24,015,356 | 0.8 |
| Jewerry | 21,863,684 | 15,848,396 | 0.7 |
| Books | 11,548,557 | 9,901,461 | 0.9 |
| Photographic Equipment \& Supplies | 5,595,853 | 4,300,078 | 0.8 |
| Toys, Hobby Goods, and Games | 18,783,177 | 19,048,873 | 1.0 |
| Optical Goods | 6,124,535 | 2,820,674 | 0.5 |
| Sporting Goods | 30,342,225 | 72,459,652 | 2.4 |
| Hardware Tools, and Plumbing and Electrical Supplies | 153,462,249 | 130,854,457 | 0.9 |
| Lumber and Building Materials | 118,538,373 | 78,880,830 | 0.7 |
| Paint and Sundries | 17,748,949 | 21,037,186 | 1.2 |
| Cars, Trucks, and Other Powered Transportation | 385,088,100 | 212,382,532 | 0.6 |
| Automotive Fuels | 192,487,882 | 311,686,645 | 1.6 |
| Automotive Lubricants | 86,682,226 | 62,266,073 | 0.7 |
| Pets, Pet Foods, and Pet Supplies | 12,734,790 | 14,523,295 | 1.1 |
| All Other Merchandise | 78,271,411 | 71,198,003 | 0.9 |

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## Leakage/Surplus Index by Major Store Type

The quantitative comparison of retail leakage and surplus in the twelve major store types shown in the chart and table below provides an initial measure of market opportunities. Combining this analysis with the knowledge of the local retail situation will take the process of identifying retail possibilities one step further.

Figure 3 provides the leakage/surplus indices and following is the sales potential and actual sales for major store types.
Figure 3. Leakage/Surplus Index and Actual and Potential Sales by Major Store Types

## Leakage/Surplus Index By Store Type

Motor Vehide \& Parts Dealers Furniture \& Home Furnishings Stores<br>Electronis \& Appliances Stores<br>Building Material \& Garden Equipment \& Supply Dealers Food \& Beverage Stores<br>Health \& Personal Care Stores Clothing \& Clothing Accassories Stores Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, \& Music Stores General Merchandise Stores Miscellaneous Store Retailers Foodservice \& Drinking Places<br>Total Retail Sales (Induding Food Service \& Drinking Places)



| Store Type | Potential | Actual Sales | Leakage/Surplus Index |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Motor Vehicle \& Parts Dealers | $476,076,009$ | $340,297,004$ | 0.71 |
| Furniture \& Home Furnishings Stores | $60,642,717$ | $28,680,534$ | 0.47 |
| Electronics \& Appliances Stores | $53,548,395$ | $28,402,763$ | 0.53 |
| Building Material \& Garden Equipment \& Supply Dealers | $268,967,778$ | $207,794,953$ | 0.77 |
| Food \& Beverage Stores | $274,446,881$ | $205,514,114$ | 0.75 |
| Health \& Personal Care Stores | $125,937,682$ | $84,595,252$ | 0.67 |
| Clothing \& Clothing Accessories Stores | $96,620,147$ | $25,969,121$ | 0.27 |
| Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, \& Music Stores | $41,619,617$ | $29,406,751$ | 0.71 |
| General Merchandise Stores | $273,622,843$ | $341,911,957$ | 1.25 |
| Miscellaneous Store Retailers | $63,882,338$ | $86,624,038$ | 1.36 |
| Foodservice \& Drinking Places | $210,190,190$ | $189,379,152$ |  |
| GAFO | $551,009,156$ | $481,130,429$ | 0.90 |
| Total Retail Sales (Including Food Service \& Drinking Places) | $2,350,851,198$ | $2,004,818,840$ |  |

* GAFO refers to discount retailers that typically include the following departments: general merchandise; clothing and clothing accessories; furniture and home furnishings; electronics and appliances; sporting goods, hobby, books and music; and office supplies.


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## Leakage/Surplus Analysis by Sub-Categories of Major Retail Types

Additional leakage/surplus details are provided on subcategories of stores in each of the twelve major store types. These details can help further identity possible business expansion opportunities.


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## Leakage/Surplus Index by Electronics and Appliance Stores



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## Leakage/Surplus Index by General Mechandise Stores

Department Stores excluding leased depts. Warehouse Clubs and Super Stores
All Other General Merchandise Stores Other General Merchandise Stores General Merchandise Stores


| General Merchandise Stores | Potential | Actual Sales | Leakage/Surplus Index |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Department Stores excluding leased depts. | $125,353,085$ | $170,715,878$ | 1.36 |
| Warehouse Clubs and Super Stores | $127,434,561$ | $161,361,766$ | 1.27 |
| All Other General Merchandise Stores | $20,835,197$ | $9,834,313$ | 0.47 |
| Other General Merchandise Stores | $148,269,758$ | $171,196,079$ | 1.15 |
| General Merchandise Stores | $273,622,843$ | $341,911,957$ | 1.25 |

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## Leakage/Surplus Index by Miscellaneous Store Retailers



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| Leakage/Surplus Index by Foodservice and Drinking Places |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Full-service Restaurants Limited-service Eating Places Special Foodservices Drinking Places -Alcoholic Beverages Foodservice \& Drinking Places |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 030 | 0.0 | 0.50 | 0.60 | 0.0 | $080 \quad 0.90$ | 100 | 10 | 120 | 20 |
| Foodservice and Drinking Places |  |  | Potential |  | Actual Sales |  | Leakage/ | Surplus | us Index |
| Full-service Restaurants |  |  | 95,576,629 |  | 74,459,342 |  |  | 0.78 |  |
| Limited-service Eating Places |  |  | 88,116,507 |  | 102,553,471 |  |  | 1.16 |  |
| Special Foodservices |  |  | 17,037,265 |  | 8,670,894 |  |  | 0.51 |  |
| Drinking Places -Alcoholic Beverages |  |  | 9,459,790 |  | 3,695,445 |  |  | 0.39 |  |
| Foodservice \& Drinking Places |  |  | 210,190,190 |  | 189,379,152 |  |  | 0.90 |  |

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## Sources and Methodology

Household demand estimates are derived by combining data from the Consumer Expenditures Survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics with current household demographic estimates from Claritas. The demand estimates only account for household expenditures. Demand is defined as the estimated dollar amount spent by a household that resides in the area of analysis for a specified retail store type or merchandise line item.

Supply estimates are generated from the Census of Retail Trade, a component of the Economic Census. County-level sales tax data is allocated to low levels of geography using business sales estimates, business locations, and employee counts provided by Claritas' Business Facts® database. Supply includes all products sold at retail outlets in a specified area for a one-year period. Supply is defined as the estimated total retail sales for a retail store type or merchandise line item.

Source: Retail Market Power ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}}$ (Claritas).

