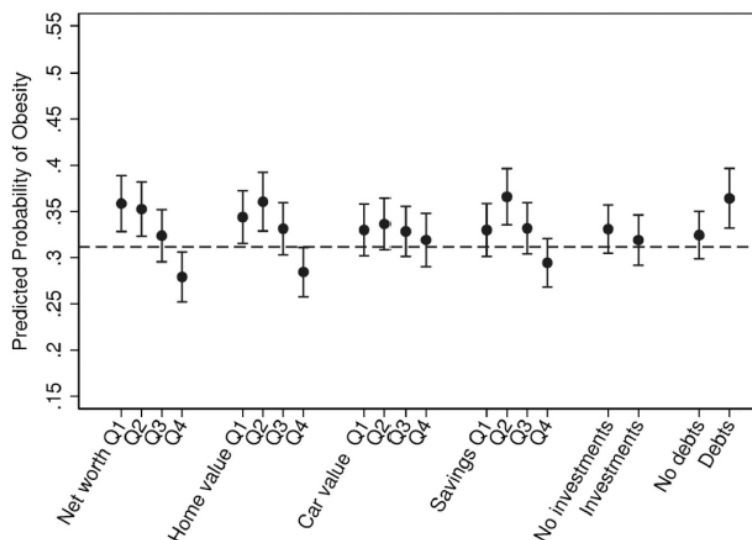
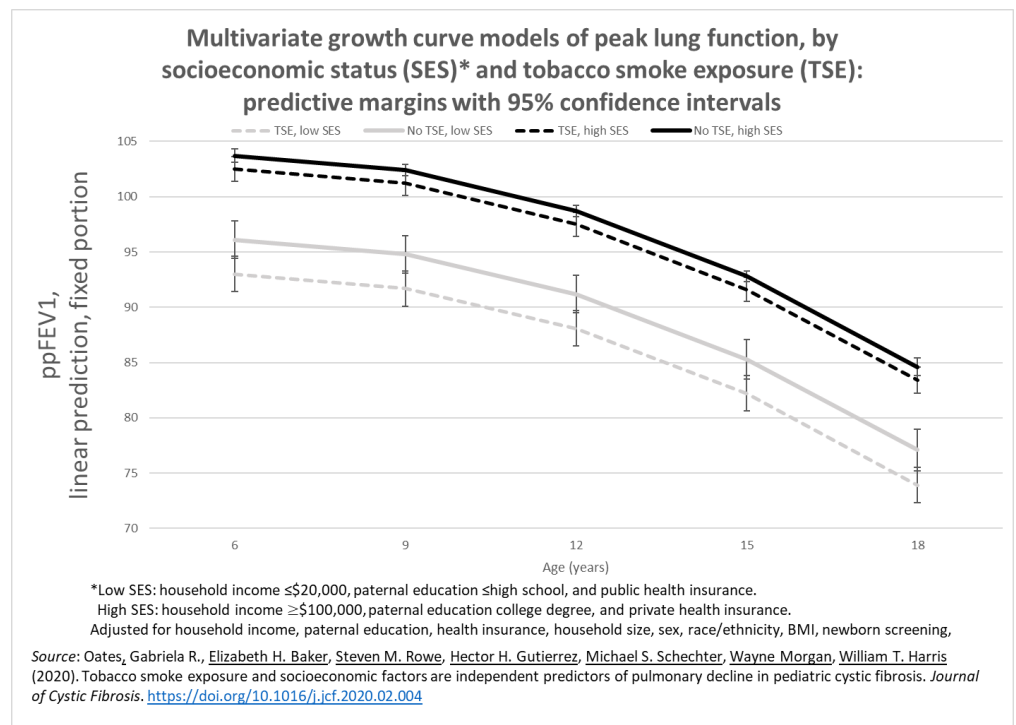


Elizabeth Baker, PhD

I am a population scientist with extensive training in sociology and demography. **In my research I focus on examining how different social, clinical and environmental factors impact health.** My research has been supported by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease (NIDDK), and the National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). In addition to direct grant support, I rely on census data and data supported by federally funded institutions such as Bureau of Labor Statistics in both my research and in class.

Smoking Causes Greater Harm to Economically Disadvantaged Populations

For example, I recently found that both low socioeconomic status (e.g. low parental education, low income) and exposure to tobacco smoke resulted in worse health. However, **among those with low SES, tobacco smoke exposure was even more harmful to health.** This research was funded, in part, by NIDDK.

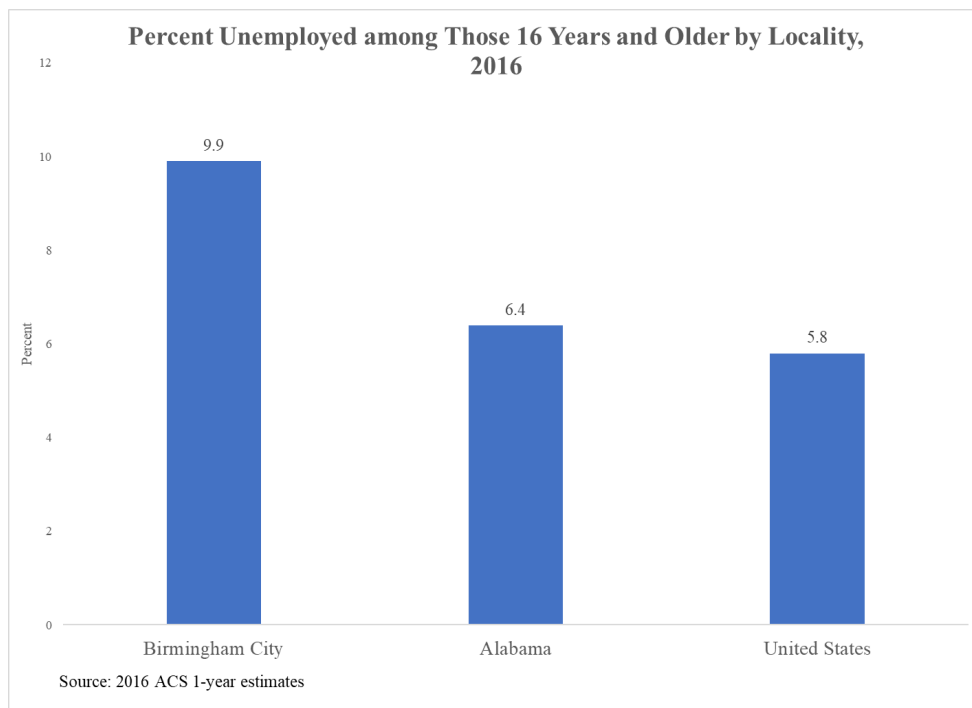


Obesity Linked to Wealth Status

Using funding from the NIMHD my colleague and I examined wealth and obesity prevalence among adults in mid-life. **We found wealth to be an important indicator of obesity even after taking into account factors such as education, income, and employment.** Additionally, we find that the source of wealth is important for understanding the relationship between wealth and obesity.

Good census data are important to my research and teaching!

I rely on census data in both my research and teaching. In research, I am currently working with a colleague to connect patient reported health outcomes to census information at the census tract or block level. We use census data to determine the extent that there is socioeconomic deprivation and residential patterns by race and ethnicity. **This will provide an understanding of how social factors impact health outcomes, making use of health records.**



In teaching I use the Explore Census data tool (<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>). My introduction to sociology students use these data to write a report about the current state of a social affair (single parent families, educational attainment, poverty, etc.) and contrast findings by differences in localities at the city, state, and national level. Students leave my introduction to sociology class with the ability to find and use good sources of population data. This is an example of a graph that my undergraduate student made during my Introduction to Sociology (SOC 100) class in 2019.

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