

Latrica Best

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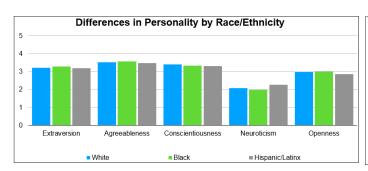
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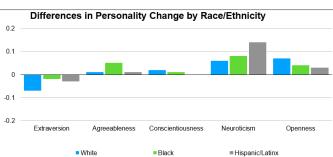
I was a **National Institute on Aging (NIA) predoctoral trainee** at the Population Research Institute (Penn State) and a **NIA postdoctoral trainee in Gerontology** (USC).

Questions My Work Addresses

- 1. What is the relationship between **personality** and **chronic health conditions** among older adults? Does this vary by race/ethnicity?
- 2. How can we best utilize questions related to **biological** and **genetic marker data** in **national surveys** to examine **health disparities**?
- 3. What is the relationship between **food consumption**, **access**, **and knowledge** and **health outcomes** among African Americans?
- **4.** What are the impacts of **severe weather events** and shifts in climate on the **health of Louisville**, **KY**, **residents?**

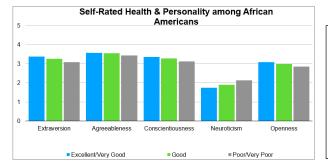
Example of Research Using Federally Funded Data





Agency: National Institute on Aging, Social Security Administration

Data: Health and Retirement Study



Source: Best, L. E. 2017. "The Impact of Personality Change on Health among Older Americans: Findings from the Health and Retirement Study. "In M. McGehee & B. Bradshaw (Eds.), *Applied Demography and Public Health in the 21st Century* (pp. 51-68). Springer International

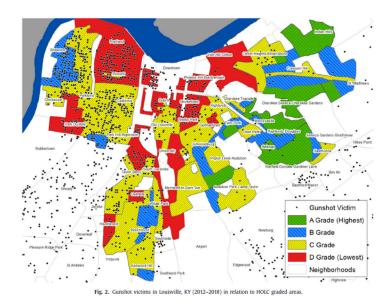
Key Finding(s):

- There are **small to moderate differences** in personality by race/ethnicity as well as changes in the reporting of personality over time.
- There is a strong association with socioeconomic status and changes in reporting.
- **Agreeableness and neuroticism** predicted whether people were **hypertensive**, though **the** relationship between the two diminished when considering economic issues.

Implications: Understanding how social circumstances influence personality across life-stages can provide greater insight on health disparities and disease prevention and management.

Examples of UofL Arts & Sciences Faculty & Student Research

Historically Redlined Areas & Greater Incidence of Present-Day Gunshot Victims



Key Finding: Residents residing in historically redlined areas in Louisville, KY:

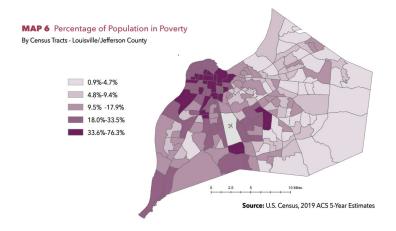
- Twice as likely to be victim of gun violence than those in "2nd best" areas
- **4X as likely** to be a victim than residents in "best" areas

Source: Benns, M, M. Ruther, N. Nash, M. Bozeman, and K. Miller. 2020. "The Impact of Historical Racism on Modern Gun Violence: Redlining in the City of Louisville, KY." *Injury* 51(10):2192-2198

Agency: Census Bureau

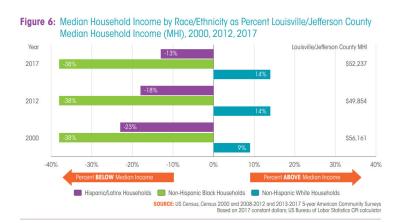
Data: American Community Survey, Census Block data

State of Louisville Metropolitan Housing



Key Finding: Data shows **continued spatial concentration of poverty** in **western and south central** Louisville/Jefferson County

Key Finding: Black and Hispanic/Latinx households' **median income is below** the Louisville/Jefferson County **median**, while **white median** income is **above** the Louisville/Jefferson County median.



Sources: Heberle, L., R. Halpryn, and K. Kinahan, D. Rohret (2021). "2020-2021 State of Metropolitan Housing Report: COVID-19 and the Struggle to Stay Safe at Home in Louisville, KY." Metropolitan Housing Coalition, Louisville, KY. http://louisville.edu/cepm/publications/reports/2020-2021-state-of-metropolitan-housing-report

Heberle, L, K. Kinahan, D. Rohret, J. Wheeler, R. Halpryn (2019). "State of Metropolitan Housing Report: 22,000 Equities, Addressing Racial Gaps in Homeownership and Wealth." Metropolitan Housing Coalition, Louisville, KY. https://louisville.edu/cepm/publications/reports/2019-state-of-metropolitan-housing-report