

Sociology 380/580
IDA Assignment One
Summer 2003

Urban Residential Choice Using Vlab-Resi

1. For this exercise select the mapped data available for Cleveland and two other metropolitan areas, either chosen at random or by personal interest in those areas.
- 2.. First assume you are a member of a minority racial or ethnic group (choose either Asian, African American, or Latino. You may choose your own group if applicable, but you need not). Furthermore, assume you are a recent college graduate offered a good job by a national corporation, and you are told you can take the job at their office in either of the three areas selected in step 1. The work will be identical. You are encouraged to choose a location based solely on quality of life considerations.
3. Of the three areas under consideration, rank order their desirability to you based on a comparison of the mapping information provided. Report the mapping information you used and give your understanding of how this information translates into quality of life considerations, as they apply to you, a recent graduate who is a member of the minority group selected.
4. In preparing your report, about two pages in length (typed), you may wish to invoke the segregation concepts that you believe would be most relevant to your life quality, consulting pp. 5-7 of the SegMaps user's guide distributed to you (or available on line in .pdf format).

Sociology 380/580
IDA Assignment Two
Summer 2003

Examining the Relationship between Immigration Status and Child Poverty Using WebChip

1. For this exercise select the Web Chip data file cen1990/chldpov9.dat.
2. Using two variable crosstabs and possibly also control variables, analyze the relationship between immigration status and child poverty status. Copy your final tables to a WORD file and print them.
3. Write a one page report based on these tables and attach a copy of the tables..

Sociology 380/580
IDA Assignment Three
Summer 2003

Examining Trends in the Educational and Occupational Attainment of Ohio Adults, from 1950 to 1990, by Race

1. For this exercise select the Web Chip data file `geography/oced5090.oh`
2. Do a two-variable crosstab, education by year, and then control for the two-category race variable.
3. Repeat the above, except substitute occupation for education.
4. Print your results after pasting into Word, and preferably (as time permits) do so after you have first aligned the table columns using your tab and space bar keys. Append these tables to your report.
5. Write a one or two page report on changes in educational and occupational attainment of Ohio citizens. Address these issues:
 - a) What are the similarities and differences between the two race groups in the amount of change on each outcome?
 - b) How have the racial disparities in education and occupation changed over the 50 years?
 - c) Are the changes in occupational attainment different from changes in educational attainment?
6. Pooling this evidence, write a concluding paragraph (noting the supporting evidence for your claims) that assesses the degree to which you believe Ohio is making satisfactory progress in improving the life chances of its African American citizens.

Sociology 380/580
IDA Assignment Four
Summer 2003

Accounting for Immigrants= Relative Occupational Success among Black Americans

1. For this exercise select the Web Chip data file Cen1990/ocim9-25 and, optionally, -35.
2. Your task is to use these 1990 nonfarm labor force data to analyze the relationship between immigrant status (either native-born or one of three levels of recency of arrival Bbefore 1970, before 1980, or before 1990) and occupational position.

After looking at the relationship for the full sample, focus on two groups, Blacks and Latinos.

3. By inspecting the occupation by immigrant table for the two groups, report (and present your evidence) similarities and differences in how one=s occupational position depends on one=s immigrant status.
4. Substitute education for occupation and see if the pattern is the same or different from what you reported in step three. Can the varying amounts of education across the different levels of immigrant status account for the differing occupational distributions? At your option, you may also try some of the other variables in the data set to help understand the possible occupational differences in the two race/ethnic groups or the immigrant status groups.
5. Write a two page report of your findings and attach a copy of your properly aligned and titled tables (pasting them either into MS Word or Excel). In discussing your findings, try to explain why some immigrant groups appear to have more occupational success than their native-born counterparts.

We shall use your findings the following week when we begin to discuss Mary Waters= claims about why West Indian immigrants frequently outperform native-born African Americans in the workplaces she studied.