Satenik Margaryan
CUNY - BMCC
CRJ 102 Criminology DARE Project Module

Module Description: Short Assignment – Neighborhood Statistical Snapshot

"Neighborhood Statistical Snapshot" is the Census/ACS module and it is part of a DARE research project in the course. It is intended to develop the research skills of students with little or no research experience so that they can use Census/ACS data for their community reports. The module also introduces them briefly to data visualization options and tools. The primary focus of the exercises is on New York demographics so that students can develop a comfort level navigating the data and the various online analytic tools.

Learning Objectives

The objective of this assignment is to analyze and interpret American Community Survey (ACS) data to gain a deeper understanding of the demographics and characteristics of a chosen neighborhood. Through this assignment, students will enhance their data analysis skills, draw meaningful insights, and present their findings in a comprehensive neighborhood report.

Goals:

- o   Identify Census/ACS data sets to use in reporting and writing.
- o   Describe and analyze simple descriptive statistical information.
- o   Visualize Census/ACS data in the form of charts, graphs and maps.

Teaching/Facilitation Notes

This module will take 2-3 weeks, depending on the class time.

Activities

Neighborhood Selection: Each student will select a specific neighborhood within their city or locality for analysis. It should be an area with accessible American Community Survey data available.

American Community Survey (ACS) Data Collection: Students will gather relevant ACS data for their chosen neighborhood. The data can be obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau website. Key demographic variables to consider include population, age distribution, race/ethnicity, education level, income, housing tenure, and household size.

Data Analysis: Using spreadsheet software (Google Sheets), students will organize and analyze the ACS data to generate descriptive statistics and visual representations. They should identify trends, patterns, and interesting findings within the data.

Neighborhood Statistical Snapshot Assignment:

a. Introduction: Provide an overview of the chosen neighborhood and the purpose of the report.
b. Demographic Profile: Present a detailed demographic profile of the neighborhood based on the ACS data. Include tables, charts, and graphs to illustrate the data.
c. Key Findings: Highlight significant trends or unique characteristics observed in the demographic data.
d. Comparison: Compare the demographic features of the neighborhood with broader city or regional data, if available, to gain additional insights.
e. Conclusion: Summarize the main findings and their significance in understanding the neighborhood's composition and dynamics.
f. Citation and References: Properly cite all data sources, including the ACS data and any other references used for background information or analysis.

Instructions on how to do the following assignment:

A. NYC Population FactFinder

Using the NYC Population FactFinder , answer the following questions about your chosen neighborhood.
1) Total population (number and percentage)
2) White, non-Hispanic:
   Black/African American non-Hispanic:
   Hispanic origin:
3) How do the percentages of each compare to New York City overall?
4) White, non-Hispanic:
   Black/African American non-Hispanic:
   Hispanic origin:

B. American Community Survey Data

Using the American Community Survey Data, answer the following questions about your NYC borough.

1) Total population. What is the estimated population of your borough according to the 2020 Census?
2) What is the median age of residents in your borough?
3) What percentage of the residents in your borough are high school graduates or higher?
4) What is the median income for the borough residents?
5) What percentage of residents is living below the poverty level?
6) How many Hispanics/Latinos of any race live in your borough?

Assessment

Below is the grading rubric for the assignment, for the total 20 points.

	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Satisfactory (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)
Data Collection & Analysis	Thoroughly collected and analyzed data with exceptional accuracy and depth; presented with clarity and precision.	Effectively collected and analyzed data with proficiency and accuracy of analysis; presented with clarity and some minor gaps.	Adequately collected and analyzed data with an acceptable level of accuracy and depth.	Somewhat collected and analyzed data with limited accuracy and depth.	Insufficient or inaccurate data collection and analysis; limited or no analysis evident.
Presentation & Visual Organization	Visual and written report is exceptionally organized and coherent, with a clear logical flow and smooth transitions.	Visual and written report is well-organized and coherent with some minor issues in transitions.	Visual presentation is clear and engaging.	Visual presentation is adequate but may require some improvements in clarity and engagement.	Written report lacks organization and coherence, leading to difficulty in following the content.
Insights & Demonstrated Analysis	Demonstrated insightful and comprehensive analysis of the data, connecting data trends to implications and neighborhood characteristics.	Provided insightful and comprehensive analysis of the data, connecting data trends to implications.	Provided relevant insights and analysis of the data but with limited connections to implications and neighborhood characteristics.	Provided some insights and analysis of the data but with limited connections to implications and neighborhood characteristics.	Provided limited or irrelevant insights and analysis of the data; disconnected from the neighborhood characteristics.
Research & Citations	Demonstrated excellent research effort and used proper citations.	Demonstrated proficient research effort and used proper citations.	Demonstrated adequate research effort, but with minor issues in citations.	Demonstrated limited research effort and used proper citations.	Limited or no evidence of research effort; lack of proper citations.

Resources

NYC Census Factfinder

American Community Survey (ACS)

The Data Analysis Research Experience (DARE) at Lehman College