IDA Project
Sinclair Community College
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Student Learning Module
Exploring Race and Ethnicity using 2000 Census Data

Learning Objectives

Skill
After the completion of this module, the learner should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to state a hypothesis.

- Interpret a dissimilarity index

- Examine and use web resources to explore possible policy implications of data findings in this module.

Substance

- Define all key concepts

- Interpret data presented in both table and graphic form

- Demonstrate an effective use of the sociological imagination.

Key Concepts:

Race
Ethnicity
Census data
Metropolitan area
County data
City data
Multi-racial
Segregation
Hypersegregation

Learner's name_____

Learner Pre-Assessment

Before beginning this module, take a few minutes to respond to the following questions:

1. Do you think there is a large amount of residential segregation in Ohio? What about in Dayton?

2. Do you know what is meant by the term "hyper-segregation"?

3. How comfortable are you with numerical information? Please circle which best describes you.
   - Not Comfortable
   - Somewhat Comfortable
   - Comfortable
   - Very Comfortable
   - Extremely Comfortable

A Brief Introduction to the Topic:

The 2000 Census allowed respondents to select more than 1 racial category (In the past, you had to select only one racial category).

For this assignment, you will be using information on the www.censusscope.org website. This website was created to help you as a student use the latest and greatest census data.

Exploration #1 Examining the Multiracial Category

One issue that we can now explore with the new census data is levels of multi-racial self-identification by geographic location. In other words, we now know where the majority of people who self identified as belonging to more than 1 racial category live. This information may help us understand issues of racial/ethnic identity formation as well as inter-racial marriages and families.

In order to examine this information, you will need to click on the tab labeled **RANKINGS.**

1. On the left, you should see an area that allows you to select variable of interest. You will need to click on the arrow to pull down **% Multiracial.**
2. After you have made this choice, you will need to click on the circle to select **STATES** as your geographical unit.
3. Once you have chosen your variable of interest, you are now ready to click on **RANK. This will present a table ranking the STATES from the highest percentage of reported multiracial identities to the lowest.**

LIST THE TOP 5 STATES with the highest percentage of self-reported multiracial:

     STATE   Percentage

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Did anything surprise you about the above list?
Explain_____
_____.

List the 5 States with the smallest percentage of multiracial:

     STATE   Percentage

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

If you compare the two groups, what variables/issues do you think might explain why there is such variation between these two lists? Use your sociological imagination and any theories we have covered this quarter. Now, let's look at counties in Ohio. What areas do you think would have the

highest percentage of multiracial identities? Why?

_____.

[HIT THE BACK BUTTON TO GO TO PREVIOUS SCREEN]

Go back to the box on the left and Click on Counties then Scroll Down and Choose Ohio. Again, you will need to click on the rank button. This will rank the data by counties in OHIO.

In a paragraph, basically summarize what the data shows

_____
_____
_____.

Were you surprised? Why or Why not?

_____
_____
_____.

EXPLORATION #2 Segregation

According to your textbook, is the physical and social separation of categories of people. While sometimes groups do self-segregate (like the Amish), much of the current segregation in the United States is in part historical remnants of forced segregation in the United States and continued discriminatory practices embedded in our culture. Census data is a valuable tool in examining and understanding racial segregation.

At this point, you will need to use the mapping tool to examine a visual of racial segregation in the United States. Click on the MAPS file folder heading on the top of the screen. You will now need to scroll down on your left to the **SEGREGATION** list of maps. At this point, you can choose to examine a large number of racial relationships. Let's begin by looking at the segregation of Whites and Blacks in the United States (Please note that Census data categorizes respondents as Black and not African American).

Once you choose, white-black, you should see a map. This map indicates level of segregation using the dissimilarity index. This index will be explained later in the module.

 If you just examine the map, what areas seem to have high levels of segregation?

List them below:

What areas seem to have low levels?

Let's examine the actual data. **You will need to click on the top tab labeled SEGREGATION.**

According to this information what is the dissimilarity index?

What does a score of 0 mean?

What does a score of 100 mean?

You can now examine the actual data used to create the map. On the left of the screen, choose racial comparison (Choose White-Black again).

To examine by Metropolitan area, choose Metro, then Click on Rank. This will rank all the metropolitan areas in the United States by level of White-Black segregation (using the dissimilarity index). Keep in mind that metropolitan area is a much larger area than just examining a city.

List the Top 5 Segregated Metropolitan Areas in the United States

      Metro Area   **Index**

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

List the Lowest 5 Segregated Metropolitan Areas in the United States

      Metro Area   **Index**

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

How did this compare to your visual examination?
_____
_____
_____.

Did anything surprise you about the above information?
_____
_____
_____.

Now, let's look at cities in Ohio.

What do you think will be the most segregated city in Ohio? Why?
_____
_____.

[HIT THE BACK BUTTON]

NOW CHOOSE CITIES and SCROLL DOWN TO OHIO. CLICK ON RANK.

List the top 5 and the bottom 5.

TOP FIVE	BOTTOM FIVE
1.	
2.	1.
3.	2.
4.	3.
5.	4.
	5.

Did anything surprise you about the above list?

_____
_____
_____.

On your own, go back and explore the dissimilarity index for another racial group. Do this for metro areas as well as cities in Ohio. Be sure to list the top 5 and the bottom 5 for both metro areas as well as Cities in Ohio. Compare your findings to the information above.

List your findings on an additional sheet of paper.

EXPLORATION #3 HYPERSEGREGATION

Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton have noted that many African-Americans (there are other groups impacted as well) experience phenomena known as hyper-segregation. Hypersegregation refers to the fact that many groups experience not only residential segregation, but they are often in very poor areas with poor school systems. Thus, they are socially isolated from the rest of society. In order to understand hyper-segregation, we need to look at levels of poverty in the United States and compare to levels of segregation. We would expect to find that areas of very high racial segregation often have very high levels of poverty.

In order to do examine this visually, you will need to go to new website. In the address bar, type in http://www.prb.org/DataFinder.aspx. Find the topic Economic Security in the United States. At this point, you can find number or percent of persons in poverty. Then click on map view. Go back and look at your rankings list of most segregated areas.

Do you see any similarities? Explain
_____
_____
_____
_____

Do you see any differences? Explain.
_____
_____
_____.

Social Policy Application

Explain how each of the three political perspectives might respond to the above information. What might they suggest as possible solutions? You may use another sheet of paper to record your responses.

Learner's name_____

LEARNER'S POST ASSESSMENT

Take a few moments to reflect upon what you have learned in this module:

1. What factors seem to be related to segregation in the United States?

2. What surprised you most about doing this module? Explain

3. What is hyper-segregation?

4. How comfortable are you with numerical information? Please circle which best describes you.
   - Not Comfortable
   - Somewhat Comfortable
   - Comfortable
   - Very Comfortable
   - Extremely Comfortable