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RACIAL SEGREGATION AND COVID-19 HEALTH OUTCOMES: EVIDENCE FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA

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Racial Segregation and COVID-19 Health Outcomes: Evidence from the State of Georgia

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ABSTRACT

Emerging in late 2019 and continuing onwards in 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way many people live in today's world as well as taking numerous innocent lives every day. In addition, racial segregation has created a lasting impact on society. The purpose of this research project is to determine if racial segregation influences COVID-19 health outcomes in the state of Georgia. For the study, the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and COVID-19 were the basis of selecting variables from publicly available sources including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Georgia Department of Public Health. The SDOH are comprised of six categories: economic, education, healthcare, social context, food, and environmental. After selecting the independent variables, they will be analyzed with the dependent variables, which include the case rate, death rate, and hospitalization rate of COVID-19 in the 159 counties of Georgia. Data analysis will be conducted utilizing Stata Software to determine if racial segregation, and other SDOH, affect COVID-19 health outcomes. This study will analyze the data from each county and answer the question if racial segregation influences COVID-19 health outcomes.

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