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Follow the Money—Analyzing Montgomery County Crime Statistics Based on Income, Race and Age at the Census Tract Level

Weber Gaowen
Washington University in St. Louis

Ji Hyun (Cindy) Hur

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Weber Gaowen and Ji Hyun (Cindy) Hur

Mentor: Bernardo Santos Da Silveira

This work investigates differences in crime statistics based on income, race and age. We chose Montgomery County in Maryland because it is an economically and racially diverse area broken up into 210 census tracts. Using multi-linear regression, we show several notable results about the level of crimes committed based on the demographics of the population in the area. Our main empirical result indicates that there is a u-shaped relationship between average census tract income and crime severity, even when we control for other factors such as race and age. Both low- and high-income areas have disproportionately greater amount of crimes compared to areas with a large proportion of middle income population.