
In the future I would like to build a more robust analysis that accounts for more variables. Some of these variables are discussed in the limitations section. I think an analysis by state could be useful as well. This could be used by policy makers to decide which states are most at risk of coronavirus and could therefore reopen sooner.

This risk analysis shows that there is a clear correlation between higher coronavirus risk and a higher percentage of people of color. This is not a surprise considering the long history of structural racism in the United States. One reason for such a strong correlation is that one of the main risk factors for exposure to coronavirus is a high population density. Lower income neighborhoods tend to have higher population densities. People of color tend to be less wealthy than whites because of historical structural racism. These results are not surprising and seem to align with current media criticism that people of color are at much higher risk of dying of coronavirus.

In the short term these results would be useful for policy makers to see which counties are likely to be the most devastated by the pandemic. This way resources can be allocated to the areas that need them most. In the long term these results will be useful for identifying yet another important example of structural racism.

There are two main limitations to this analysis. The primary one is that the coronavirus case data changes constantly. This makes sense because the counties most at risk change every day based on how they handle the outbreak. The second limitation is that there are many factors that influence the spread of disease. Examples of some variables that were unaccounted for are access to clean water for hand washing, wealth to afford social distancing (more likely to be able to work from home, can hire others to do grocery shopping, more money to treat ailments, etc.), and distribution of immunocompromised individuals and the elderly. There are many other variables that dictate the spread of disease, and the knowledge of which variables are most important changes every day.