Place Matters: Health, Housing and Equity in Oklahoma City

Kate Richey, Oklahoma Policy Institute
krichey@okpolicy.org | 918 794 3944
www.okpolicy.org

I. Components of place and why place matters
II. Description of data source and method
III. The Data: Housing and Health in Oklahoma City
   ✧ Neighborhood/housing conditions and health
   ✧ Nutrition, housing, and health
   ✧ Architecture, health and housing
   ✧ Why not move?
IV. Concluding thoughts and implications
The Components of Place
Source: PolicyLink, Why Place Matters: Building a Movement for Healthy Communities

These data highlight aspects of the built environment of a physical space and the access/quality of public services.

American Housing Survey
✧ Census Bureau survey of major U.S. cities
✧ Individual housing unit and neighborhood-level data for Oklahoma City
✧ In this presentation, because of limitations with the data set, ‘White, non-hispanic’ also includes some Asian, Native American, Two or more races, and Other households. Less than 10 percent of the ‘White, non-hispanic’ households in the charts and tables below are classified otherwise.
Neighborhood vs. Community
Source: PolicyLink, Why Place Matters: Building a Movement for Healthy Communities

The terms “neighborhoods” and “communities” are primarily geographic references. In this sense, neighborhood is the relatively small area in which people live. Community is defined more broadly because where individuals and families work and socialize often traverses neighborhoods, cities, or regions.

Much of the data below highlight differences in the environmental quality of our neighborhoods, but they offer much broader lessons on how the construction of our communities implicates household and neighborhood health.

Neighborhood and housing conditions:

• Water leakage inside/outside structure or both
• Moderate to severe plumbing problems
• Within 300 feet of housing unit:
  • Commercial or institutional area
  • Industrial or factory area
  • Trash, litter or junk accumulated
Water leakage inside/outside structure:

- Above poverty: 16.9%
- Below poverty: 26.2%
- Black/African-American: 25.2%
- Hispanic/Latino: 19.9%
- White, non-Hispanic*: 17.2%

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey

Moderate or severe plumbing problems:

- Above poverty: 1.0%
- Below poverty: 2.3%
- Black/African-American: 1.2%
- Hispanic/Latino: 2.7%
- White, non-Hispanic*: 1.0%

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey
### Commercial or institutional area within 300 feet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Above poverty</th>
<th>Below poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Hispanic*</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td>33.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African-American</td>
<td>37.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Industrial or factory area within 300 feet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Above poverty</th>
<th>Below poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Hispanic*</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African-American</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey
Trash, litter or junk accumulated within 300 feet:

- Above poverty: 12.6%
- Below poverty: 18.1%
- Black/African-American: 19.5%
- Hispanic/Latino: 15.8%
- White, non-Hispanic*: 12.4%

*Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey

Nutrition and housing:

- Primary water source safe to drink
- Access to a grocery/drug store
- Incomplete kitchen (no sink, fridge, or oven/burners)
Primary water source not safe to drink:

- Above poverty: 8.1%
- Below poverty: 16.4%
- Black/African-American: 17.6%
- Hispanic/Latino: 20.2%
- White, non-Hispanic*: 7.4%

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey

Over a mile to a grocery/drug store:

- Above poverty: 16.8%
- Below poverty: 24.8%
- Black/African-American: 22.5%
- Hispanic/Latino: 15.9%
- White, non-Hispanic*: 17.4%

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey
Incomplete kitchen
(no sink, fridge, or oven/burners)

- Above poverty: 1.4%
- Below poverty: 2.6%
- Black/African-American: 3.1%
- Hispanic/Latino: 2.4%
- White, non-Hispanic*: 1.3%

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey

**Car-architecture, health and housing:**

- Within 300 feet of 4 or more lane highway, road, or airport
- Bothered by street noise or traffic
Within 300 feet of 4 or more lane highway, road, or airport:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Above poverty</th>
<th>Below poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black/African-American</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Hispanic*</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bothered by street noise or traffic:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Below poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black/African-American</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, non-Hispanic*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Why not move?

- Main reason for choice of present neighborhood
- Main reason for choice of present house

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black/African-American</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
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</table>

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey
Main reason for choice of house were financial or only house available:

- Black/African-American: 40.2%
- Hispanic/Latino: 39.6%
- White, non-Hispanic*: 36.5%

Oklahoma City, 2004 American Housing Survey

Concluding thoughts and implications:

- Many of our individual ‘choices’ and ‘behaviors’ are heavily mediated by factors beyond our control
- Health education alone, without addressing the physical components of our built environment, will have limited benefit
- Housing/neighborhood segregation by race and income → lasting and material effects on individual and community health