

# Social Implications of COVID-19 Deaths: Analyzing Race, Ethnicity, Socio-Economic Conditions, Gender, and Age for the US

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# ABSTRACT

This paper examines two CDC data sets in order to provide a comprehensive overview and social implications of COVID-19 related deaths within the United States over the first eight months of 2020. By analyzing the first data set during this eight-month period with the variables of age, race, and individual states in the United States, we found correlations between COVID-19 deaths and these three variables. Overall, our multivariable regression model was found to be statistically significant. When analyzing the second CDC data set, we used the same variables with one exception; gender was used in place of race. From this analysis, it was found that trends in age and individual states were significant. However, since gender was not found to be significant in predicting deaths, we concluded that, gender does not play a significant role in the prognosis of COVID-19 induced deaths. However, the age of an individual and his/her state of residence potentially play a significant role in determining life or death. Socio-economic analysis of the US population confirms Qualitative socio-economic Logic based Cascade Hypotheses (QLCH) of education, occupation, and income affecting race/ethnicity differently. For a given race/ethnicity, education drives occupation then income, where a person lives, and in turn his/her access to healthcare coverage. Considering socio-economic data based QLCH framework, we conclude that different races are poised for differing effects of COVID-19 and that Asians and Whites are in a stronger position to combat COVID-19 than Hispanics and Blacks.

Keywords: COVID19, US Demographic Analysis, Socio-economic Analysis

# 1 Introduction

In 2017 the CDC reported more than 2.8 million total deaths due to various causes [1]. Diseases of the heart were the number one cause of death with a count of more than 647,000. Influenza and pneumonia caused more than 55,000 deaths and were ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in causes of death. By August 20, 2020, the US has seen more than 175,000 deaths due to COVID-19. Charbel el Bcheraoui et al. documented a declining trend of infectious disease mortality in the US due to better health care and vaccines from 1980 to 2014. They however did conclude that infectious diseases do pose a major health threat due to an increase in contact between humans and previously unknown pathogens [2].

Ethnicity combines the effects of a person's genetic make-up, social constructs, including cultural identity, and also behavioral patterns [3]. Ethnicity could likely contribute to the spread of the virus in a community; for example, cultural, behavioral, work and living differences due to lower socioeconomic status, health-seeking behavior, and intergenerational cohabitation seen in certain communities could all contribute. So far, none of the top ten countries with COVID-19 cases have reported ethnicity-related data. In the UK, mortality reporting does not require documentation of ethnicity-related information. Understanding the relative importance of ethnicity-related factors will require both qualitative (behavioral response to pandemic) and quantitative (absolute risks and outcomes) prospective studies [4].



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#### Social Implications of COVID-19 Deaths; Analyzing Race, Ethnicity, Socio-Economic Conditions, Gender, and Age for the US

Rentsch *et al.* [5] study analyzed about 6 million US veterans to understand racial and ethnic disparities in COVID-19 testing and subsequent mortality. The study found that both African Americans and Hispanics were more likely to be tested for COVID-19 and both groups tested positive for the infection at a higher rate than Caucasians. These findings were true irrespective of an individual's underlying health conditions, age, gender demographics, and geographical location. However, this study did not find a difference in 30 day mortality when comparing between race or ethnicity [5].

Multiple studies of large US metropolitan areas (e.g. Chicago, Illinois and Milwaukee County, Wisconsin), with higher concentrations of racial and ethnic minorities and adverse social determinants that may not adequately permit safe social distancing, have been conducted. These studies have shown a higher rate of COVID-19 infections in these areas. Gaining a better understanding of COVID-19 infections related to various demographic factors is necessary to come up with better healthcare services for minority populations [6,7].

This paper specifically looks at demographic factors such as age, race, gender, and state of residence to find out which demographic factors contribute most to COVID-19 deaths in the United States. This comprehensive analysis is conducted over the first eight months of 2020 using two different CDC-based data sets. Furthermore, a novel Qualitative socio-economic Logic based Cascade Hypotheses (QLCH) of education, occupation, and income affecting race/ethnicity are evaluated using US government's latest socio-economic data reports. A better understanding of how these demographic factors in concert with socio-economic factors contribute to COVID-19 deaths will guide us in developing better public policies to combat the pandemic.

#### 2 Data acquisition and analysis

#### 2.1 Database selection

We used data collected by the CDC for both analyses, limiting our dataset to COVID-19 deaths for the first eight months of 2020 [8,9]. The first data set looked at several demographic factors including 11 age groups, race, and states of residence in respect to COVID-19 deaths for a total of 4,752 observations. The CDC uses the following race categorizes to organize COVID-19 related deaths: Hispanic, White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and More than One Race. We could not make any conclusions concerning gender and COVID-19 deaths from the first data set as gender information was not included [8]. We excluded 89 observations from our analysis, as 88 observations were totals for the United States and one observation had a missing field.

We turned again to the CDC for our second analysis because the first CDC data set, while providing information for age, race, and state of residence, did not provide information based on gender [9]. This dataset also covered the time frame for the first eight months of 2020. Out of 1,378 observations within the second data set, 212 observations were excluded from our analysis. These 212 observations included state totals for all genders-all ages, total for male-all ages, total for female-all ages, and total for unknown gender-all ages.

#### 2.2 Hypothesis testing

Statistical analyses were performed with both data sets. We utilized a testing model with dependent variable y and independent variable  $x_i$ , where

i = 1, 2,...

$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \varepsilon$	(1)
The hypothesis used for our model:	
$H_0: \ \beta_1 = \beta_2 = = 0, and$	(2)
$H_A$ : at least one of $\beta_i \neq 0$ .	(3)

Rejection of H<sub>0</sub> for our model implies that at least one of the independent variables contributes significantly to the model. The F-test we utilized to test the above hypothesis is with  $\alpha = 0.05$ .

# 2.3 Data analysis

### 2.3.1. First analysis model

A visual display of the first CDC-based dataset is provided in Figures 1 through 3 for our first analysis model. These scatterplots show variations between race and deaths, age groups and deaths, and state and deaths. Figure 1 demonstrates that Caucasians have experienced more variation of deaths followed by African Americans, Hispanics, and then Asians. The other races have seen relatively fewer deaths.

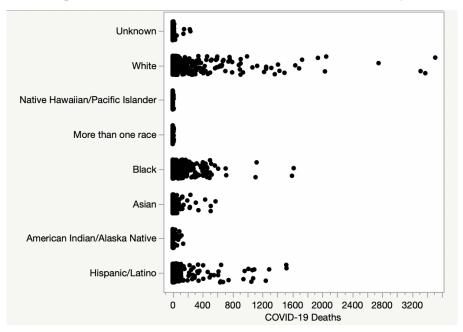
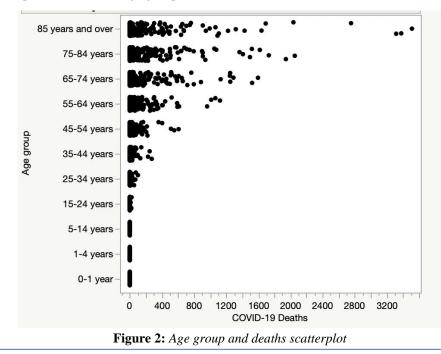


Figure 1: Race and deaths scatterplot

Figure 1 confirms what Vahidy *et. al* [6] and Millett *et. al* [7] concluded in their paper: African Americans and Hispanics experienced a relatively higher proportion of deaths in reference to their respective population proportions. Figure 2 demonstrates an increase in the number of deaths as a function of age. Based off of the data, those individuals below the age of 55 have a relatively smaller chance of death from COVID-19 compared to those in age groups of 55 and above.



Social Implications of COVID-19 Deaths; Analyzing Race, Ethnicity, Socio-Economic Conditions, Gender, and Age for the US

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West Virginia –	
Washington –	
Virginia –	
Vermont -	
Utah –	
Texas –	
Tennessee –	
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South Carolina –	
Rhode Island -	
Puerto Rico –	
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Oregon –	
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California –	
Arkansas –	
Arizona –	
Alaska –	
Alabama –	
	0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600 1800 2000 2200 2400 2600 2800 3000 3200 3400
	COVID-19 Deaths

Figure 3: States and deaths scatterplot

Lastly, seven states (New Jersey, New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Florida, California, and Texas) were found to have a large variation in deaths compared to the other 43 states in the country, as displayed in Figure 3.

Using JMP software, we performed a multiple linear regression analysis. Our model's summary of fit demonstrated an R-squared adjusted value of 0.2884. The analysis of variance of the full model is shown in Table 1. Our overall model was shown to be significant with a p-value of < 0.0001. This means that our regression model is better than just using a mean value to predict deaths. Table 2 shows that all individual sources of state, race, and age groups are significant with COVID-19 deaths as each has a p-value < 0.0001. The parameter estimates for the first model are tabulated in Appendix A. Analyzing Appendix A for the p-values (last column of 'prob > |t|'), we can conclude that all age groups are significant to the regression model. In addition, all races are significant to the regression model, with the exception of African Americans with a p-value > 0.05. Only a few states are significant to the regression model (California, Florida, Illinois, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas) with p-value < 0.05. All the remaining states are not significant to the regression model with p-value > 0.05.

166

Source	DF	Sum of	Mean	F Ratio
		Squares	Square	
Model	69	3977597530	57646341	19.4363
Error	3069	9102394794	2965915.5	Prob>F
C.	3138	53345747		< 0.0001
Total				

 Table 1: ANOVA table – 1st data set

167

Table 2:	Effect	tests –	1st	data	set
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Source	DF	Sum of	F Ratio	Prob>F
		Squares		
State	52	712786798	4.6217	< 0.0001
Race	7	2149564759	103.5366	< 0.0001
Age	10	1095127346	36.9238	< 0.0001
Group				

Figure 4 shows the normalized residuals vs. predicted deaths for the first CDC data set-based model. There are many outliers, as several of the points do not fall within a -3 to +3 range for predicted deaths higher than 3,000.

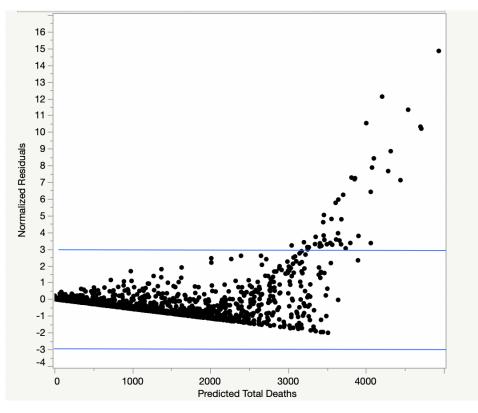
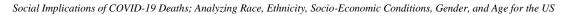


Figure 4: Normalized residuals plot

#### 2.3.2. Second analysis model

For our second model, multiple regressions were performed using the second CDC data set. This model included age groups, gender, and state of residence with respect to COVID-19 deaths. A visual display of our CDC-based second dataset is provided in Figures 5 through 7 for this analysis model. These scatterplots show variations between age groups and deaths, gender and deaths, and state of residence and deaths. Figure 5 demonstrates that both males and females experienced a similar variation in deaths.



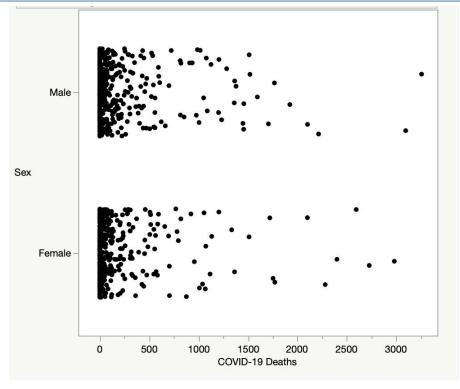
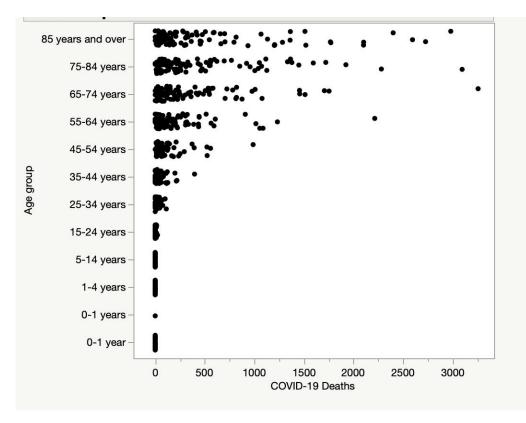
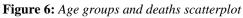


Figure 5: Gender and deaths scatterplot

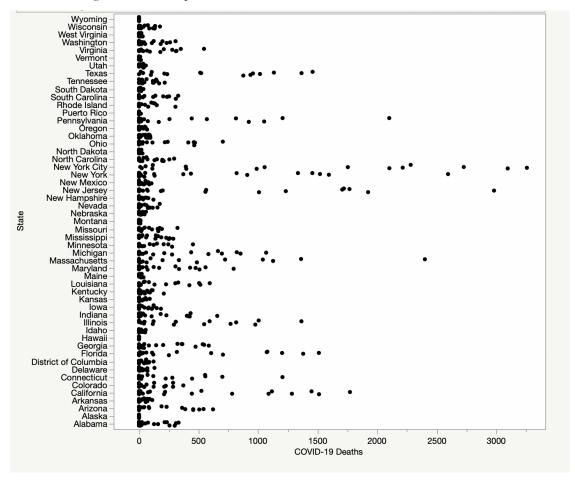
Figure 6 demonstrates an increase in the number of deaths as a function of age similar to the first data set shown in Figure 2. We reached the same conclusion that those individuals below the age of 55 have a relatively smaller chance of death in comparison to age groups of 55 and above.





From Figure 7, similar to Figure 3, seven states (New Jersey, New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Florida, California, and Texas) have a large variation in deaths compared to the other 43 states.

Table 3 shows the analysis of variance for the overall regression model for our second CDC data set. This was found to be significant with a p-value of <0.0001.



#### Figure 7: States and deaths scatterplot

These results show that our regression model is better than just using a mean value to predict deaths. The model had a R-squared adjusted value of 0.5437, thus displaying a better fit than our first model. Table 4 for this analysis demonstrates that age groups and states of residence are statistically significant (p-value < 0.05), while gender is not. Parameter estimates are tabulated in Appendix B. Analyzing Appendix B for the p-values (last column of 'prob > |t|') we can conclude that all age groups are significant to the regression model except the age groups of 1-4 years and 55-64 years as they both have p-value > 0.05. Unlike our first model, in this model most states that are significant to the regression model with p-value < 0.05. The states of Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington are not significant to the regression model with p-value >0.05.

-		-	-	
Source	DF	Sum of	Mean	F Ratio
		Squares	Square	
Model	64	81481251	1273145	17.6413
Error	830	59899942	72169	Prob>F
C.	894	141381193		< 0.0001
Total				

Source	DF	Sum of	F	Prob>F
		Squares	Ratio	
Age group	11	32720764	41.22	< 0.0001
State	52	49309527	13.14	< 0.0001
Sex/Gender	1	254763	3.53	0.0606

 Table 4: Effect tests – 2nd data set

In Figure 8 we show the normalized residuals vs. predicted deaths for the second CDC data set. There are no outliers, as none fall outside the -3 to +3 range.

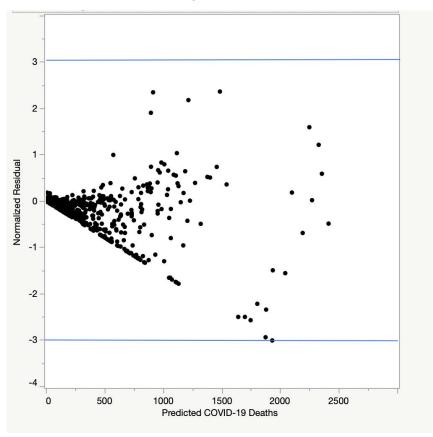


Figure 8: Normalized residuals plot

#### **3** Social Implications

#### 3.1 Socio-economic drivers

First, we propose Qualitative socio-economic Logic based Cascade Hypotheses (QLCH) related to education, occupation, and income. Second, we extend these four socio-economic hypotheses to 'COVID-19 deaths related to race' hypotheses. We next look at various US government's socio-economic data of education, occupation, income, and where a person lived in reference to race/ethnicity to validate these hypotheses.

#### 3.1.1 Qualitative socio-economic Logic based Cascade Hypotheses (QLCH) for a race

We propose the following Qualitative socio-economic Logic based Cascade Hypotheses:

- QLCH1: A race with lower Highschool dropouts and higher Highschool completions will have higher college enrollments and college education completions and vice versa.
- QLCH2: A race with higher college enrollment will have higher Bachelor's degrees awarded in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields and vice versa.

- QLCH3: A race with higher numbers of Bachelor's degrees awarded in STEM fields will have higher proportions of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) and vice versa.
- QLCH4: A race with a higher proportion of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) will earn higher median incomes and vice versa.

### 3.1.2 Qualitative socio-economic Logic based Cascade Hypotheses (QLCH) to COVID-19 for a race

Next, we extend the four socio-economic hypotheses (QLCH1-4) to 'COVID-19 deaths related to race' hypotheses as follows:

- QLCH5: A race with higher median incomes will have higher percentage of private health coverage and vice versa.
- QLCH6: A race with higher proportions of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) have a better capacity to social distance by working from home and vice versa.
- QLCH7: A race with higher proportions of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) have a better capacity to social distance by living in non-crowded neighborhoods like suburbs instead of cities and vice versa.
- QLCH8: A race with higher proportions of living in non-crowded neighborhoods like suburbs instead of cities will have better healthcare access and vice versa.

### 3.2 Socio-economic data for the U.S.

In Tables 5 through 9 we display socio-economic data from various U.S. Government reports. Then for each table we verify if the data follows our various hypotheses.

In Table 5 we summarize data from the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics for 2016 [10]. Asians performed the best in all categories with lowest Highschool dropout rate of 2%, highest Highschool completion rate of 97% and highest full time job holders of 80%, highest college enrollment rate of 58%, and highest Bachelor's degrees awarded in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields of 33%. Both Blacks and Hispanics were the bottom two races when it came to Highschool graduations, college enrollments, and receiving Bachelor's degrees in STEM fields.

	Percentage					
	Whi	Black	Asian	Hispanic		
	te					
Highschool dropout rate	5	6	2	9		
Highschool completion	94	92	97	89		
rate						
Highschool dropouts	58	39	78	65		
who are full time job						
holders						
Highschool graduates	68	66	80	72		
who are full time job						
holders						
College enrollment rate	42	36	58	39		
Bachelor's degrees	18	12	33	15		
awarded in STEM* fields						

**Table 5:** Graduation and jobs percentages by race in the US - 2016

\*STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

#### Social Implications of COVID-19 Deaths; Analyzing Race, Ethnicity, Socio-Economic Conditions, Gender, and Age for the US

The QLCH1 and QLCH2 appear to apply well as shown in Table 5 to all four races and profoundly to Asians with lower Highschool dropouts, higher Highschool graduations, higher college enrollments, and higher Bachelor's STEM degrees awarded. In Table 6, we display employment by occupation, gender, and race from the U.S. Bureau of labor statistics report for 2019 [11]. Note that the estimates for the race groups do not sum to totals, as data are not presented for all races and those people whose race is identified as Hispanic may be of any race. Both Asians and Whites hold proportionally more Management or Professional jobs than their population proportions (8.7% vs. 6.5% for Asians and 79% vs. 77.7% for Whites) while both Blacks and Hispanics hold proportionally fewer Management or Professional jobs than their population proportions (9.6% vs. 12.3% for Blacks and 10.1% vs. 17.6% for Hispanics). The opposite is true for 'Service' occupation as both Blacks and Hispanics hold proportionally higher Service jobs than their population proportions (17.1% vs. 12.3% for Blacks and 25% vs. 17.6% for Hispanics) while both Asians and Whites hold proportionally fewer Service jobs than their population proportions (5.9% vs. 6.5% for Asians and 72.2% vs. 77.7% for Whites). For the 'Sales and office' occupation, only Asians have lower proportional employment than their population proportion (5.2% vs. 6.5%) while the other three races' proportional employments represent their individual population proportions. For the occupations of Natural resources, construction, and maintenance, Whites and Hispanics overrepresent while Blacks and Asians underrepresent their individual population proportions. For the occupations of Production, transportation, and material, Blacks and Hispanics overrepresent while Whites and Asians underrepresent their population proportions.

Thus, the data in Table 6 shows that all races do follow QCH3. Asians and Whites with higher percentage of STEM degrees hold higher proportions of Management/professional jobs and lower proportions of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) while Blacks and Hispanics with lower percentage of STEM degrees hold lower proportions of Management/professional jobs and higher proportions of Service jobs as compared to their respective population proportions.

Occupation	M, Total						
	employed	Percent of total employed					
		Female	Male	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic
Total (16 years and over)	157.5	47.0	53.0	77.7	12.3	6.5	17.6
1) Management/professional	64.2	51.8	48.2	79.0	9.6	8.7	10.1
and related							
2) Service: Total	27.0	57.6	42.4	72.2	17.1	5.9	25.0
2.1) Healthcare support	3.8	86.9	13.1	64.2	26.7	5.1	19.1
2.2) Protective service	3.1	22.1	77.9	73.9	20.3	2.2	15.3
2.3) Food preparation and	8.4	54.5	45.5	73.7	13.9	6.9	27.0
serving related							
2.4) Building and grounds	5.7	42.0	58.0	77.3	14.9	2.9	38.2
cleaning and maintenance							
2.5) Personal care and service	6.0	76.9	23.1	69.4	16.1	10.1	18.2
3) Sales and office	33.4	60.6	39.4	78.1	13.0	5.2	17.1
4) Natural resources,	14.3	5.4	94.6	86.2	7.7	2.2	31.9
construction, and maintenance							
5) Production, transportation,	18.6	23.0	77.0	74.2	16.9	5.0	23.0
and material							

 Table 6: U.S. Bureau of labor statistics - 2019
 Particular

In Table 7, we display health insurance coverage by race in the United States for 2018 from the census report [12]. Note that Hispanic data may overlap with data for race groups as Hispanics can be of any race. Both Whites and Asians have higher health care coverage percentages (94.6% and 93.2% respectively) including higher private insurance coverage (74.8% and 73.1% respectively). In contrast, both Blacks and Hispanics have lower health care coverage percentages (90.3% and 82.2% respectively) including significantly lower private insurance coverage (55.4% and 49.6% respectively). Relatively speaking, both Blacks and Hispanics have considerably higher public insurance coverage (41.2% and 36.5% respectively) than both White and Asians (33.2% and 26.1%)

For all four races QLCH5 applies well as described in Table 7. Asians and Whites with higher median incomes have higher percentage of private health coverage while Blacks and Hispanics with lower median incomes have lower percentage of private health coverage or higher percentage of public health coverage.

Coverage		Percentage					
	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic			
Health insurance coverage	94.6	90.3	93.2	82.2			
Private insurance coverage	74.8	55.4	73.1	49.6			
Public insurance coverage	33.2	41.2	26.1	36.5			

 Table 7: Health Insurance Coverage in the United States - 2018

Age	Life expectancy in years					
	All races	White	Black	Hispanic		
At birth	78.6	78.5	74.9	81.8		
At age of 55 years	27.4	27.3	25.2	29.8		

 Table 8: Life expectancy by race - 2017

In Table 8, we show CDC's life expectancy data by race at birth and at age of 55 years for 2017 [13]. Blacks had the lowest life expectancy both at birth and at age of 55 (74.9 and 25.2 respectively), while Hispanics had the highest life expectancy (81.8 and 29.8 respectively).

In Table 9 we display real median household income from the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey [14]. Asians had the highest median income of \$81,400 for 2017, followed by Whites, Hispanics and Blacks of \$68,200, \$50,500, and \$40,300 respectively. Blacks faired the worst with no real median income growth from 2002 to 2017 while Asians had the highest growth gains of 0.82% annually over the same period.

Table 9: Real median household income by race in 2017 dollars

Year	Median income						
	All races	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic		
2017	\$61,400	\$68,200	\$40,300	\$81,400	\$50,500		
2002	\$58,000	\$64,500	\$40,300	\$72,000	\$45,000		
1987	\$53,000	\$57,500	\$32,000	\$67,000	\$40,000		
2002-2017 Annual Growth	0.38%	0.37%	0.00%	0.82%	0.77%		

Year	Median income						
	All races	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic		
2017	0.75	0.84	0.50	1.00	0.62		
2002	0.81	0.90	0.56	1.00	0.63		
1987	0.79	0.86	0.48	1.00	0.60		
Average	0.78	0.87	0.51	1.00	0.62		

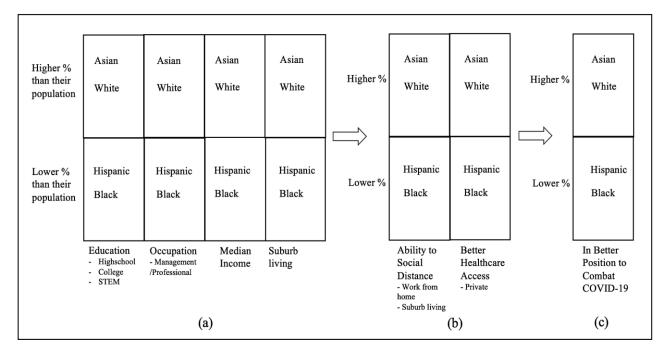
Social Implications of COVID-19 Deaths; Analyzing Race, Ethnicity, Socio-Economic Conditions, Gender, and Age for the US

<b>Table 10:</b> Real median household income relative to Asian race
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From Table 9, we converted real median household income standardized in terms of Asian median income which is shown in Table 10. Over a 30 year period from 1987 to 2017, Blacks made 51 cents on a dollar, Hispanics made 62 cents on a dollar, and Whites made 87 cents on a dollar when compared to Asians. Thus, the data shows that QLCH4 applies well to all four races as described in Table 9 and Table 10. Asians and Whites with a higher proportion of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) earn higher median incomes, while Blacks and Hispanics with a lower proportion of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) earn higher median incomes, while median work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) earn higher median incomes, while median work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) earn higher median incomes, while median work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) earn higher median incomes, while median work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) earn lower median incomes.

# 3.3 Socio-economic implications of race and location of living to COVID-19

Applying QLCH6, Asians and Whites with higher proportions of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) do have better capacity to social distance by working from home while the opposite will be true for Blacks and Hispanics.



#### Figure 9: Race/ethnicity based socio-economic implications for COVID-19

Considering QLCH7, Asians and Whites with higher proportions of Management/professional jobs instead of Service jobs (including essential work of hospitals/transportation/farm/grocery stores jobs) do have better capacity to social distance by living in non-crowded neighborhoods like suburbs instead of cities while the opposite is applicable to Blacks and Hispanics.

Utilizing QLCH8, Asians and Whites with higher proportions living in non-crowded neighborhoods, such as more suburban areas, have better healthcare access compared to Blacks and Hispanics. Figure 9 summarizes race/ethnicity based socio-economic implications for COVID-19. In Figure 9(a) Asians and Whites in relation to Hispanics and Blacks have higher percentages in education including STEM degrees which leads to higher percentages in Management/professional jobs instead of Service/essential jobs, thus additionally leading to higher median incomes. Higher median incomes for these two races give them the choice of living in more suburban areas. This allows higher percentage of Asians and Whites, in comparison with Hispanics and Blacks, the ability to social distance by living in suburbs as well as working from home (i.e. being of Management/professional occupation instead of being Service/essential workers as shown Figure 9(b)). This leads to Asians and Whites being better positioned to combat COVID-19 as displayed in Figure 9(c).

# 3.4 Comparison of regression analyses with socio-economic analysis

Our two regression analyses summarized in Table 2 and Table 4 showed that where you live (state) and race are statistically significant with COVID-19 deaths for the US population. These quantitative regression analyses are in concert with our QLCH based analyses conclusions for both race/ethnicity and where you live described in Figure 9. Tables 5 through 9 support these conclusions for the US population.

# 4 Conclusions

In the United States, deaths caused by infectious diseases have significantly reduced over the last 40 years due to better vaccines, therapeutics, and healthcare system improvements. However, in the first eight months of 2020, infectious disease has once again become a significant cause of death in the US. COVID-19 caused deaths have already exceeded the 170,000 deaths due to accidents in 2017. Unfortunately, this year COVID-19 caused deaths will be the third leading cause of deaths behind heart disease and cancer. Demographic factors of age groups, race, and residence state were found to be statistically significant using multiple regression analysis. The second analysis, with factors of age groups, gender, and residence state had a better R-squared adjusted score and no outliers. The virus is an equal opportunist as it affects both genders equally. However, the age of an individual is a critical variable that decides life or death, especially for individuals in age groups of 55 and above. Race also seems to play an important role in deaths, as Black and Hispanic death proportions are higher than their respective population proportions. Bigger population states with high minority populations have seen higher deaths relative to the other states. Thus, inequality in socio-economic conditions is an important determinant affecting health conditions of an individual and his/her ability to social distance at work or at home. Socio-economic analysis for the US population shows that QLCH of education, occupation, and income affects race differently. For a given race, education drives occupation then income, where a person lives, and in turn his/her access to healthcare coverage. Considering US socio-economic data in the QLCH framework, we conclude that different races are poised for differing effects of COVID-19. In particular, Asians and Whites are in a better position to combat COVID-19 when compared to Hispanics and Blacks.

# **5** Competing Interests

The author declared that no conflict of interest exists in this publication.

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# Appendix A

Parameter estimates for data set 1 (COVID-19 Deaths, Race, Age, and Residence State)

Parameter Estimates					
Term	Estim	ate	Std Error	t Ratio	Prob>
Intercept	360.01	612	31.78554	11.33	<.0001
Age group[1-4 years]	-348.9	833	99.29363	-3.51	0.0004
Age group[5-14 years]	-413.4	143	98.94505	-4.18	<.0001
Age group[15-24 years]	-535.0	643	101.3903	-5.28	<.0001
Age group[25-34 years]	-438.4	357	99.2866	-4.42	<.0001
Age group[35-44 years]	-370.6	011	98.26482	-3.77	0.0002
Age group[45-54 years]	-218.8	812	98.7826	-2.22	0.0268
Age group[55-64 years]	200.33	491	95.02926	2.11	0.0351
Age group[65-74 years]			93.64987		<.0001
Age group[75-84 years]	837.96	633	93.24615		<.0001
Age group[85 years and over]			96.24568		<.0001
State[Alabama]	-77.63		236.7255	-0.33	
State[Alaska]			257.1843	-1.90	
State[Arizona]	61.520			0.30	
State[Arkansas]	-288.1			-1.29	0.1986
State[California]			192.7614		<.0001
State[Colorado]	-84.30			-0.39	0.6956
State[Connecticut]	-109.		226.0923	-0.48	
State[Oolmechool]	-314.3		210.404	-1.49	
State[Delaware] State[District of Columbia]			226.2469	-1.68	0.0939
			208.9845		<.0001
State[Florida]					
State[Georgia]			217.0577	1.35	0.1764
State[Hawaii]			228.4615	-1.71	0.0876
State[Idaho]			266.3785	-1.84	
State[Illinois]			212.1221	2.70	0.0070
State[Indiana]	135.52			0.55	
State[lowa]			234.3755	-1.41	0.1574
State[Kansas]			213.6081	-1.59	0.1126
State[Kentucky]			228.0869	-0.49	0.6234
State[Louisiana]			222.2892	-0.41	0.680
State[Maine]	-230.0	137	260.2624	-0.88	0.376
State[Maryland]	43.550	675	222.3329	0.20	0.8447
State[Massachusetts]	139.19	579	222.2489	0.63	0.5312
State[Michigan]	347.7	591	203.0051	1.71	0.086
State[Minnesota]	-96.84	952	210.4423	-0.46	0.6454
State[Mississippi]	-221.6	929	213.5928	-1.04	0.2994
State[Missouri]	35.187	439	230.2232		0.878
State[Montana]	-389.1	593	246.282		0.1142
State[Nebraska]			238.9378		0.0575
State[Nevada]	-304.8		207.402		0.1417
State[New Hampshire]			228.3482		0.2776
State[New Jersey]	353.86		205.815		0.0857
State[New Mexico]	-300.1				0.2046
State[New York]	498.22		205.85		0.0156
State[New York City]			205.8526	1.90	0.0150
State[North Carolina]			205.8526	0.68	0.0572
			266.7331		
State[North Dakota]				-1.41	
State[Ohio]			211.9688	2.81	
State[Oklahoma]			218.7907	-1.01	
State[Oregon]			222.4441		0.1484
State[Pennsylvania]	701.6	384	216.9855	3.23	0.0012

### Appendix A (Continued)

# Parameter estimates for data set 1 (COVID-19 Deaths, Race, Age, and Residence State)

Parameter Estimates				
Term	Estimate	Std Error	t Ratio	Prob> t
State[Puerto Rico]	-84.54152	2 210.7320	6 -0.40	0.6883
State[Rhode Island]	-360.2246	3 238.836	7 -1.51	0.1316
State[South Carolina]	-39.46276	6 226.287	5 -0.17	0.8616
State[South Dakota]	-463.4097	7 270.006	5 -1.72	0.0862
State[Tennessee]	233.47742	2 220.5320	6 1.06	0.2898
State[Texas]	1205.3909	9 204.487	7 5.89	<.0001
State[Utah]	-343.9522	2 212.0879	9 -1.62	2 0.1050
State[Vermont]	-225.7713	3 226.407	7 -1.00	0.3188
State[Virginia]	111.1546	1 208.9873	3 0.53	0.5949
State[Washington]	-7.673756	6 204.562	6 -0.04	0.9701
State[West Virginia]	-292.303	5 232.36	6 -1.26	0.2085
State[Wisconsin]	-49.09047	7 208.90	6 -0.23	0.8142
Race and Hispanic Origin Group[Hispanic or Latino]	-132.6249	9 78.4226	9 -1.69	0.0909
Race and Hispanic Origin Group[Non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native]	-359.623	5 85.2476	3 -4.22	2 <.0001
Race and Hispanic Origin Group[Non-Hispanic Asian]	-458.4406	6 85.2056	3 -5.38	3 <.0001
Race and Hispanic Origin Group[Non-Hispanic Black]	38.745663	3 78.39213	3 0.49	0.6212
Race and Hispanic Origin Group[Non-Hispanic More than one race]	-492.1466	6 97.6062 <sup>-</sup>	1 -5.04	<.0001
Race and Hispanic Origin Group[Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander]	-231.8993	3 86.87854	4 -2.67	0.0076
Race and Hispanic Origin Group[Non-Hispanic White]	1914.6453	3 71.8132 <sup>-</sup>	1 26.66	6 <.0001

# Appendix B

179

Parameter estimates for data set 2 (COVID-19 Deaths, Gender, Age, and Residence State)

Parameter Estimates						
Term	Estimate	Std Error	t Ratio	Prob>		
Intercept	137.50478	24.66428	5.58	<.0001		
Age group[0-1 year]	-108.6182	35.96112	-3.02	0.0026		
Age group[0-1 years]	69.424896	255.051	0.27	0.7855		
Age group[1-4 years]	-102.3781	35.32998	-2.90	0.0039		
Age group[5-14 years]	-92.44816	36.09333	-2.56	0.0106		
Age group[15-24 years]	-142.5651	43.01761	-3.31	0.0010		
Age group[25-34 years]	-265.544	45.92898	-5.78	<.0001		
Age group[35-44 years]	-189.073	40.14644	-4.71	<.0001		
Age group[45-54 years]	-77.42031	37.51859	-2.06	0.0394		
Age group[55-64 years]	61.097229	35.61192	1.72	0.0866		
Age group[65-74 years]	205.4369	35.31336	5.82	<.0001		
Age group[75-84 years]	278.88484	34.91804	7.99	<.0001		
State[Alabama]	-45.16775	59.63348	-0.76	0.4490		
State[Alaska]	-53.3162	74.03375	-0.72	0.4716		
State[Arizona]	65.30657	61.24001	1.07	0.2866		
State[Arkansas]	-167.2869	66.64752	-2.51	0.0123		
State[California]	370.69469	58.30508	6.36	<.0001		
State[Colorado]	-84.88117	64.64704	-1.31	0.1895		
State[Connecticut]	57.82471	64.64704	0.89	0.3713		
State[Delaware]	-170.5994	66.64752	-2.56	0.0107		
State[District of Columbia]	-147.4725	64.6136	-2.28	0.0227		
State[Florida]	297.93896	61.26907	4.86	<.0001		
State[Georgia]	53.304542	62.93852	0.85	0.3973		
State[Hawaii]	-38.57153	74.0378	-0.52	0.6025		
State[Idaho]	-143.9752	64.77727	-2.22	0.0265		
State[Illinois]	249.49477	64.78328	3.85	0.0001		
State[Indiana]	-0.793811	62.85679	-0.01	0.9899		
State[lowa]	-153.9593	68.79619	-2.24	0.0255		
State[Kansas]	-187.0976	68.79329	-2.72	0.0067		
State[Kentucky]	-126.7821	61.1973	-2.07	0.0386		
State[Louisiana]	61.979478	64.74334	0.96	0.3387		
State[Maine]	-135.269	68.98617	-1.96	0.0502		
State[Maryland]	44.454078	61.19396	0.73	0.4678		
State[Massachusetts]	255.03303	61.19396	4.17	<.0001		
State[Michigan]	157.66965	61.2578	2.57	0.0102		
State[Minnesota]	-90.76665	64.6136	-1.40	0.1605		
State[Mississippi]	-73.63636	62.87132	-1.17	0.2418		
State[Missouri]	-115.7934	64.64829	-1.79	0.0736		
State[Montana]	-96.64776	71.26762	-1.36	0.1754		
State[Nebraska]	-169.5496	64.68274	-2.62	0.0089		
State[Nevada]	-130.3499	64.61362	-2.02	0.0440		
State[New Hampshire]	-130.4797	64.69638	-2.02	0.0440		
State[New Jersey]	557.09482	59.69921	9.33	<.0001		
State[New Mexico]	-117.8677	59.63348	-1.98	0.0484		
State[New York]	428.88705	59.6943	7.18	<.0001		
State[New York City]	1119.8678	66.87858	16.74	<.0001		
State[North Carolina]		61.18439	-1.28			
State[North Dakota]	-78.60194 -128.2981	64.74855	-1.28	0.1993		
State[Ohio]						
	5.6261681	64.67627	0.09	0.9307		
State[Oklahoma]	-169.9087	68.76992	-2.47	0.0137		
State[Oregon]	-168.4908	64.68274	-2.60	0.0094		
State[Pennsylvania]	244.29618	61.19396	3.99	<.0001		

#### Appendix B (Continued)

Parameter estimates for data set 2 (COVID-19 Deaths, Gender, Age, and Residence State)

Parameter Estimates								
Term	Estimate	Std Error	t Ratio	Prob> t				
State[Puerto Rico]	-223.887	71.14168	-3.15	0.0017*				
State[Rhode Island] State[South Carolina]	-142.4135 -77.8835	68.85869 66.61104	-2.07 -1.17	0.0389* 0.2426				
State[South Dakota]	-164.4586	64.61827	-2.55	0.0111*				
State[Tennessee]	-125.5243	68.78903	-1.82	0.0684				
State[Texas] State[Utah]	400.8797 -193.2976	64.85037 68.79329	6.18 -2.81	<.0001* 0.0051*				
State[Vermont]	-78.82175	74.08765	-1.06	0.2877				
State[Virginia]	-37.39142	61.18439	-0.61	0.5413				
State[Washington]	-91.77569	62.81311	-1.46	0.1444				
State[West Virginia] State[Wisconsin]	-171.7658 -138.1335	68.87104 66.61104	-2.49 -2.07	0.0128*				
Sex[Female]	-16.95728	9.025317	-1.88	0.0606				